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IN BUSINESS: The latest, brightest, business ideas
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WINNING UGLY. IS IT GOOD FOR RUGBY?
SEE BACK PAGE.....

Mother (21) threatened to stab her husband

A MOTHER of two, who threatened to stab her husband and who attacked a police officer during a confrontation, has been sentenced to a two-year community order at Cardiff Crown Court.

Rebecca Turner (21), formerly of Tudor Estate,

Report by AJ SICLUNA

Caerau, was also made subject to a restraining order preventing her contacting Cory Turner for 10 years.

Mrs Turner had admitted charges of making threats to kill, possessing an offensive weapon and assaulting

the police.

Judge Michael Fitton QC told Turner, who had been remanded in custody since November 22: "I'm going to take a chance with you."

Prosecutor Ian Kolvill said Turner had been in a relationship with Cory Turner but there were difficulties.

She learned that her husband intended to obtain a court order.

On November 20, she contacted someone and said she was going to stab Turner, and that she knew where he was currently living.

The police were contacted and Mr Turner was made aware of the threats.

On another occasion, under the influence of drink and drugs, she left home armed with a knife.

"She went towards the home of Mr Turner with the intention of using it, and was intercepted and 'talked down'," said Mr Kolvill.

The following day, she went to her parents' home and during an incident, the police were called.

She kicked out at an officer, catching him the groin.

The court heard she had a previous conviction for causing actual bodily harm.

Her solicitor, Rhodri Chudleigh, said: "She has had problems from an early age and cannot manage her aggression. When she was arrested, she was at a low point in her life."

He said if she received her liberty, she could stay at an address in Garth, Maesteg.

"She takes medication for anxiety. She needs assistance."

She was directed to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

ORLA (aged 13) CELEBRATES SURVIVING CANCER BY LOSING HER LONG LOCKS



A GIRL from Blackmill is marking the 10th anniversary of being diagnosed with leukaemia when she was just three years old – by donating her long hair to a cancer charity.

Orla Galton, who lives in Blackmill, was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2006. She is now 13, and April 1 is the day when she will have 20 inches of her locks cut off and donated to the Little Princess Trust.

The trust makes wigs for young girls who lose their hair while receiving treatment for cancer.

Orla has also set up a justgiving page and wants to donate cash raised through that to LATCH, the children's cancer charity.

Orla's mother, Sharon, told The GEM: "When Orla was three, she lost all her hair during her treatment, so having her hair cut off at 13 seems a very good way of marking the anniversary."

After her diagnosis, Orla had treatment for



At age three, Orla lost her hair.

several years, and was a pupil at Llangan Primary School during that period.

Now, she attends Cowbridge Comprehensive School. Sharon said: "Fich and Ramous, the

hairdressers in Cowbridge, have kindly agreed to cut Orla's hair and restyle it on the big day."

Orla's justgiving page is: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Orlashair>

Samantha B

Ladies Fashions and Accessories

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A Tribute to... **Friday 25th March**
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Local pupils take a close look at China



ABOVE: Abercridin Primary pupils enjoyed celebrating the Year of the Monkey.

PUPILS at Abercridin Primary School recently marked the climax of the Chinese New Year celebrations with an exciting week of Chinese-themed activities.

Dance, tai chi, cooking and calligraphy all helped the pupils to learn about the country's ancient traditions, while they've also been taught how to say a few simple Chinese greetings and made monkey masks to celebrate 2016 being the year of the monkey.

The school was visited by Chinese tutors from Cardiff University's Confucius Institute, thanks to a link-up that began last autumn.

Abercridin's headteacher, Helen Gentle, explained: "In October, our wellbeing manager and myself were lucky enough to be among the school staff

from across the UK to be chosen by the British Council to spend a week in Beijing and Dalian.

"We visited a number of schools and it was an amazing experience. From that visit we have been able to work with the Confucius Institute and our pupils have been fascinated by the chance to learn about Chinese traditions and customs.

"The Chinese New Year covers 15 days of festivities that bring families together and offers a chance to reflect on the past and celebrate the future. We feel that this is a particularly fitting message for our school, as we have achieved a lot in the last few years and have so much to look forward to.

"Our goal is to become an accredited Confucius School so that we can broaden our pupils' education even further, and all of our key stage two pupils will soon start studying Chinese culture and learning Mandarin."

FREE NHS BREAST SCREENING TEST

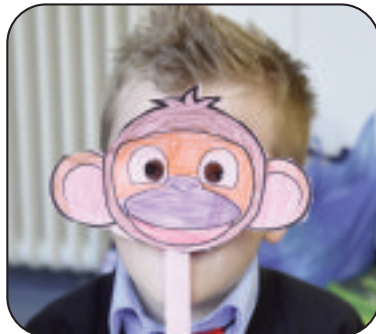
THE Breast Test Wales mobile screening unit will be at Sainsbury's car park, Sarn, Bridgend from the middle of March to the end of September.

Women aged between 50 and 70 this year will automatically receive postal invitations to attend for screening if they are registered with the following surgeries: Ashfield Surgery, Newcastle Surgery, Riversdale House and Oak Tree Surgery.

Women who are aged over 70 will not automatically be invited for breast screening, but can request an appointment by telephoning Breast Test Wales on 029 2039 7222.

Anyone concerned about a breast change should visit their GP without delay.

For more information, contact your GP practice or telephone Breast Test Wales on 029 2039 7222.



Coity's real life 'Call the Midwife' tales

PRESIDENT Lyn Griffiths opened a very well-attended meeting of Coity WI, and after the usual formalities reminded us of the numerous events which members had enjoyed since we last met.

Some of these included a superb lunch at Seasons Restaurant, organised by Heide Harris, a theatre trip to see *Rehearsal for Murder* at The New Theatre, Cardiff, and the regular group meetings for coffee, craft and activities. Three prospective members were introduced and welcomed.

Our speaker for the evening was our own Lyn Griffiths, who held the audience spellbound with her account of her experiences as a midwife. Training as a mature student, Lyn

qualified in general nursing before going on to her midwifery training. Her stories equalled any we have seen on TV, and our respect for our president rose to even greater heights as we heard of the life-and-death situations midwives encounter, and the vital work of the midwife in the community.

Members are reminded that the Link meeting takes place at Pencoed on March 10, and the coffee morning is meeting at Sidoli's in The Pines on March 11 at 10.30am.

The next meeting will be held at Gilead Chapel, Coity, on March 17 at 7pm, when the speaker will be Rosemary Scadden, who will speak on 'The History of Clothes'.

The competition will be 'A favourite bracelet.' ES

Who wants to build what and where in the county borough?

European tyre Enterprise Ltd - Kwik-Fit, Picton Court Retail Park, Waterton, Bridgend - Two fascia sign, one badge sign, one reception sign and one freestanding pylon sign (all illuminated).
BCBC Parks Department - The Wilderness Lake, Heol y Goedwig, Porthcawl - Various works to trees, including lopping, felling, thinning to remove health and safety risk to park users.
Mr Gareth Evans - 13 Newcastle Hill, Bridgend - Replace four white wood framed windows with white UPVC double glazed windows (in three sash windows); replace patio door and frame (wood) with new door and frame (UPVC double glazing) at rear of property.
Mr G Ames - Land

north of 37 Heol Ty Gwyn, Maesteg - Two detached houses with garages and new private access road.
Mr Tudor Morris - Former dwelling south side of Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin - Demolition of fire damaged dwelling and construct new detached dwelling.
Mr Gordon Perrie - 6 Esterling Drive, Porthcawl - Proposed extension and roof storage and front porch.
Anwen Care Ltd - Anwen Care Home, Heol Pant-yr-Awel, Ogmere Vale - Two and three storey extensions to residential care home for addition 12 bedrooms, stretcher lift and ancillary accommodation.
Mr G Norris - Former Blaenllynfi Infants School, Grosvenor

Terrace, Maesteg - Erect six three-bed detached dwellings and eight two-bed semi-detached dwellings.
Mr A Reeves - 13 Heol Cefn Ydfa, Coytrahe - Ground floor extension.
Mr M Williams - 8 Laleston Court, Laleston - Conservatory to side of property.
Mrs J Mort - 31 Crossfield Avenue, Porthcawl - Erect a balcony to the south side of the house with doorway from bedroom.
Mr Paul Davies - 3 Blackmill Road, Bryncethin - Non-material amendment to P/12/710/FUL.
Mr Chris Loftus - 28 Heol y Cwr, North Cornelly - Proposed two storey extension to the rear of the dwelling.
Mrs Jane Mathias - 83 Wood Green, Cefn Glas, Bridgend - Remove current fence and erect 1.82m high fence on property boundary and include side entrance to garden.
HD Ltd - 14 Dunraven Place, Bridgend - Proposed replacement shopfront.

Mrs Rebecca Walsh - 37 West Street, Maesteg - Loft extension to create additional bedroom and bathroom facilities (re-submission of P/15/718/FUL).
Celtic Energy Ltd - Former Margam surface mine, Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend - Alt restoration and aftercare scheme including pumping, earthworks, soil relocation, rights of way affecting footpaths.
Cefn Cribwr.
Mrs S Jones - 22 Islawen Meadows, Pencoed - Single storey side extension.
HD Ltd - 32 Nolton Street, Bridgend - Demolition of existing office/WC and construct new taxi office.
Mr David Richards - 50 Beach Road, Porthcawl - Non-material amendment to P/15/535/FUL, change pitched to flat roof in extension and reduce footprint of extension.
Mr and Mrs Pedrazzini - 25 Ty Gwyn Drive, Brackla - Change windows in rear elevation; discharge condition no 2 of P/15/240/FUL.
Mr P Heginbotham - Dderwen Fach, Heol Llan Coity - Balcony to first floor.
Mr Wayne Dawkins - 156 Caerau Road, Caerau - Detached garage extension to rear.
Maesteg Celtic Cricket Club - Garth Welfare Park, Maesteg - Installation of steel container at Garth Welfare Park.
Mr Alan Phillips - Plot 5, Bryn Road, Ogmere Vale - Outline application for two dwellings.
Mr and Mrs Steve Quinn - 100 Heol West Plas, Coity - Balcony to front with first floor side extension, rear ground and first floor extension.

MP's concern for sea bass fishing future

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon says that the future of recreational sea-bass fishing in south Wales, an important part of the local maritime economy, is under threat following the introduction of a new set of regulations in favour of commercial fishing.

On February 11, took part in a Backbench business debate on the subject: <http://www.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmhansrd/cm160211/debtext/160211-0003.htm>.

Following the debate, she said: "I was recently approached by a local angler who was concerned about the decimation of the sea bass population and frustrated by the inadequacy of the Government's attempt to regulate the fishing industry. I looked further into the issue and was shocked by the scale of the environmental crisis we are confronting."

"Nobody disputes that there is an urgent need to increase bass stocks. It is an economic and environmental imperative. In 2014, the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas recommended an 80

per cent cut in bass mortality across the EU area for 2015, following a rise in bass landings from 772 tonnes to 1,004 tonnes."

"But the Government's regulations punish recreational hook-and-line anglers, while allowing large-scale commercial operations to continue their destructive and indiscriminate fishing practices."

"In December, anglers agreed to accept a temporary ban on all sea-bass fishing, only to find that the UK Fishing Minister and his European counterparts had agreed to exempt commercial fishing."

"Sea-angling is a popular pastime in the Bridgend area and an integral part of the local tourist industry. Pubs, restaurants, hotels and taxi services benefit from a thriving angling sector and will suffer as a consequence of the Government's decision."

"Across the UK, it pumps up to £2.1 billion into the economy, significantly more than commercial fishing."

"Recreational angling is the sustainable future of sea-bass fishing. We need an explanation as to why the Minister is ignoring the weight of evidence against his policy. The transparency of Government decision-making is at stake."

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MARCH 10)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
03 Thur	00.09	7.5	12.42	7.4
04 Fri	01.36	7.3	14.19	7.3
05 Sat	02.59	7.7	15.37	7.9
06 Sun	04.07	8.4	16.36	8.6
07 Mon	04.59	9.2	17.22	9.4
08 Tues	05.47	9.9	18.12	10.0
09 Wed	06.31	10.4	18.56	10.4
10 Thur	07.16	10.7	19.36	10.6

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Grandfather (59) jailed for bringing drugs into Parc

A 59-YEAR-OLD grandfather who smuggled Class C drugs into Parc Prison, Bridgend, has been put behind bars for 22 weeks at Cardiff Crown Court.

Raymond Brockway, of Wilson Road, Ely, had eight tablets of Buprenorphine and a herbal substance in his underwear.

He evaded a security search before attaching the package to the bottom of a chair in the visiting area.

Brockway admitted taking the drugs into prison and possessing drugs with intent to supply.

At a previous hearing, Brockway claimed two men approached him in the prison car park and ordered him to take the drugs into the prison and made threats.

by AJ SICLUNA

Judge Michael Fitton said: "You were lying to me and the court about that."

Said the Judge: "I think it is perfectly obvious that drugs are a very valuable currency within prison and in those circumstances, taking drugs into prison has to be met with an immediate custodial sentence."

Prosecutor John Warren said the offences took place in August 2014, when Brockway was visiting his stepson, who was serving a sentence for robbery.

Mr Warren said Brockway succeeded in carrying the package through a security search, before attaching it under a chair in the visitors' area.

It was spotted on CCTV.

Security staff intercepted the parcel, replacing it with another

package containing tea leaves. This was later picked up by two prisoners sent to clean the room.

Initially, Brockway denied smuggling drugs into the prison, but on the day of his trial, he pleaded guilty.

His solicitor, Hugh Bowden, said: "There was no financial gain and no long-term plan. It was an isolated incident and he deeply regrets it."

It was clear, said Mr Bowden, that pressure was put on Brockway.

He added: "Loss of liberty would have a significant impact on his family. Sadly, he never thought through the end result."

The Judge said Brockway had been before the court in the 70s, 80s and 90s. He added: "Those matters were not relevant and you are not as naive as you make out. You knew what you were doing was wrong."

Fewer 'persistent absentees' in local schools, council reports

THE percentage of pupils in Bridgend county borough who are persistently absent from school has fallen below the Welsh average for the second year in a row, BCBC reports.

'Persistently' absent pupils are those children who miss at least a fifth of the half-day sessions that they should attend during a school year.

The latest stats by council show that 1.1 per cent of local primary school pupils were persistently absent during 2014/15, compared to the Welsh average of 1.4 per cent.

In secondary schools, 3.5 per cent of local pupils were persistently absent - well below the Welsh average of 4.5 per cent. The results mean that

absenteeism at primary schools in Bridgend County Borough has fallen by 1.6 per cent during the last three years, while the secondary school figure has fallen by 3.7 per cent over the same period.

When compared to the rest of Wales, Bridgend county borough is ranked as the joint fifth lowest for persistent absence among primary school pupils, and the seventh lowest for persistent absence in secondary schools.

Coun Huw David, BCBC's Deputy Leader, said: "Usually, with school performance statistics we are striving to achieve the highest percentage scores, but with persistent absence stats you aim to be as low as possible."

"So it is very pleasing to see the percentage of

pupils who are persistently absent falling again this year. Regular attendance is a crucial ingredient for ensuring success at school, and the most recent school attendance figures also make pleasant reading, with the attendance rates for both primary and secondary schools firmly above the Welsh averages."

The latest school attendance figures for 2014-15 revealed that attendance has risen to 95.1 per cent at primary schools and 94.2 per cent at secondary schools across the county borough. Both figures are higher than the Welsh averages of 94.9 per cent (primary school) and 93.8 per cent (secondary school).

Diseased trees to be cut down at Newbridge Fields

AROUND A dozen trees that are suffering from Dutch Elm disease are to be removed near steps that lead from Newbridge fields to Glanogwr Road, Bridgend - as well as one large poplar tree.

The work will start on Monday, March 7 and will mean the steps and ramp will be closed at times for safety reasons during the ten to 15 working days it will take to complete the work, BCBC reports.

Other mature trees in the area will have maintenance work carried out to remove

dead, low growing and crossing branches.

Coun Hywel Williams, cabinet member for communities, said: "This work will be carried out as quickly as possible, to reduce any inconvenience for local residents and pedestrians who use this route into Newbridge Fields. A number of these trees will present a risk to users of the path if this work is not carried out soon."

"It is also important to do this now before the bird nesting season. Replacement trees will be planted in this area in due course," he promised.



Choir members at the Stadium.

Fire, brimstone, and Bridgend Male Choir

THE musical gladiators entered the Principality Stadium via the Dragon's Mouth tunnel and into the impending cauldron of Welsh and French supporters' noise to promenade to the front of the main stand.

Owing to a malfunction, the

Principality Stadium roof was open on a rain-free night, though it might have been lifted anyway with the power of the singing!

Sam Warburton and his team were back on track for their Six Nations championship match against France.

It was not only the fire and brimstone of legend that helped to inspire the capacity crowd, but the sound of Bridgend Male

Choir with Cardiff Athletic Male Choir that generated great crowd support.

Dafydd Iwan's 'Yma o Hyd' ('Still Here'), a patriotic song, loved and performed by the late, great Ray Gravell, sounded magnificent, under the baton of Dr Haydn James.

The song was intended to stir pride in Wales and it worked for the choir and for the crowd.

It was one of seven songs, plus the anthems, with which the 74,000 capacity crowd was entertained.

'La Marseillaise', sung with Gallic passion at rugby stadia and other sporting venues throughout the world for 'Les Bleus', filled the Principality Stadium.

Bridgend Male Choir, accent perfect, joined in its fervour, voicing what can only be described as proud, but with brutally ferocious lyrics designed to overcome our own Welsh exhortations to the men in red.

It was sung with Gallic zeal by the 120 choristers and the many French visitors in the crowd.

This was the omen that our impressive visitors were to experience.

The stadium sound would prevail and help a bruising dominant Wales win through to brutal victory bestowing the word perfect to Bridgend Male Choir, knowing a satisfaction and a job well done. What a fantastic experience.

Best wishes to our Llynfi Valley neighbours, Maesteg Gleemen MVC who will be singing at the Wales v Italy match to round off the Six Nations championship.

GERAINT HOPKINS

Council is to look again at Newton sea defences?

CONSERVATIVES in Porthcawl believe there has been a change of stance from Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) over the issue of flood defences at Newton Beach.

Welsh Conservative AM for South Wales West, Dr Altaf Hussain, said that he "cautiously welcomed" a proposal by officials to "determine a range of options" for flood defence provision on Beach Road, Newton, Porthcawl.

BCBC officers and the Minister for Natural Resources, Carl Sergeant, were lobbied by Dr Hussain and councillors representing Newton ward, following concerns expressed by local residents.

These concerned the proposed shoreline management plan (SMP), a long-term policy of 'no active intervention' which means the coast will be allowed to 'evolve and retreat naturally' at Beach Road.

This prompted fears that it might jeopardise homeowners' ability to obtain a mortgage, or adequate insurance on their properties.

Dr Hussain claimed that he had received a letter from the Minister which "could potentially spell better news".

He said: "I am pleased to have received the response from the Minister, having raised this issue with him on several occasions."

"It is encouraging to see that both he and

BCBC can recognise a legitimate concern exists and acknowledge that the matter should be looked at again - and I hope that the residents affected get robust answers this time.

"The uncertainty has caused local homeowners considerable difficulties and worry for a long time now, and I hope matters can be brought to a head in a way that is satisfactory for all".

The GEM understands that some experts believe that, if sea levels were to rise in the next 30-50 years, sea defences at Newton would need to be extended to stop water coming through via the adjoining sand dunes.

A BCBC spokesman

said: "The council has put a bid in for Welsh Government funding that would enable us to carry out a review of the expected lifespan of the existing defences and to see if any further options are possible."

"However, this is at a very early stage and no further details are currently available."

Coun Ken Watts, who represents Newton on BCBC, added: "I would ask that BCBC does all it can to involve local residents from the earliest stage of the investigation, as they have not only the best knowledge of local conditions, but will be the first to feel the impact of any policy changes that come under the SMP".

Town council by-election winner

THE by-election for the Morfa ward on Bridgend Town Council was won by Stuart Baldwin, Labour, (295 votes); Philip Loveday, Independent, polling 283 votes.

Mr Baldwin said: "I am so proud and privileged to have been elected by the people of Morfa to represent them on Bridgend Town Council. I would like to thank everyone who voted for me, and showed their trust and faith not only in me, but also in the Labour Party. I promise to work my hardest to represent all the residents to the best of my abilities and will not let you down."

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West Side Story cast list

TIME and space meant that it was not possible to include the cast and production credits for the Bridgend Youth Theatre's excellent version of West Side Story in last week's GEM.

Any musical show such as this depends heavily on the many people who work behind the scenes, as well as the young actors who, despite not having a featured part in the show, put 100 per cent into their performances.

It made for a special evening for the audience, and I'm sure everyone who saw the show will join me in congratulating everyone listed on this page.

PHILIP IRWIN

Production team

Director, Roger Burnell.
Musical director, Nathan Jones.
Choreographer, Andy Burnett.
Gemma Mulcahy and Philippa Harries of Fantasy Feet Dance Academy.
Set Design, Roger Burnell
Ellis Watts, Laura Thorne, Ffion Thomas and Emily Barry.
Set Construction, Jon Owen.
Venue Stage Manager, Mario Williams and Will Lewis.
Deputy Stage Manager, Shelley Rees Owen.
Sound, Dave Spencer.
Follow Spot, Beth Newman.
Assistant Managers, Sam Stables and Becky Davies.
Marketing, Owen-Rhys Evans.

The Band

Reed 1, Joe Atkin-Reeves; reed 2, Annie Perry; reed 3, Sian Evans; reed 4, Joshua Jones.
Horn, Tom Taffinder.
Trumpet 1, Helen Whitmore; trumpet 2, James Lawlor.
Trombone, Craig Walker.
Percussion, Maz Ireland. Kit, Rhyddian Griffiths. Piano, Sioned Evans. Keys, Joshua Abbot.
Violin 1, Olivia Jago; violin 2, Annie Pullar; violin 3, Morven Graham. Cello, Joe Keenan.
Bass, Pete Harris.

Dance Company -

Fantasy Feet: Alex Powell, Georgia Powell, Erin Twose, Sarah Hames, Jazmin Berry, Kaisha Jones, Caitlin Jame, Naomi Dorricott.

Choreographers:

Philippa Harries and Gemma Mulcahy.

The Adults

Doc - Matt Lee/ Matt Jones; Schrank - Owen Evans; Krupke - Gethin Williams; Glad Hand - Andy Burnett.

Junior Jets

Rachel Bold, Daniel Huckridge, Keenan Edmunds, Dafydd Rees, Georgia Anderson, Emma Jenkins, Rachel Whistance, Rhys Jones, Isabelle Evans, Hannah Strong, Olivia Pownell, Lauren Hancock, Jenny Tanner, Caitlyn Huckridge, Lucy Beale, Isabella John, Abbi Audsley, Eve Manley, Lauren Bailey, Willis Deeks.

Jets

Riff - Jack Davies; Tony - James Evans; Jones; Action - Iwan Bond; A-Rab - Evan Barker; Big Deal - Rob Davies; Baby John - Jude Blake/Patrick Oneill; Snowboy - Billy Thomas; Diesel - Jack Beale; Gee-Tar - George Neeson; Mouthpiece -

Evan Laidler; Tiger - Christian Mosely; Dion - Ioan Protheroe; Ice - Billy Thomas; Zoot - Dafydd Rees; Buzz - Ben Davies; Anybods - Jasmin Jones.

Their Girls

Graziella - Chloe Thomas; Velma - Nia Rees; Minnie - Lauren Woodward; Clarice - Eliza Barrett; Pauline - Lili Smith; Polly - Emily Wintle; Annie - Lowri Rees Owen; Cindy - Aimee Wooley; Diana - Eleri Jones; Anthea - Carys Wooley; Mary - Skylar Davies; Lancy - Regan Davies; Celia - Jeri-Lynne Grabham; Sandy - Katie Shears; Mandy - Loren Taylor.

The Sharks

Bernardo - Lewis Scott (Tony understudy); Maria - Olivia Hopper; Anita - Meredith Lewis; Chino - Oat Jenner; Pepe - Nathan Williams; Indio - Jaydon Jones; Luis - Jack Williams; Anxious - Cameron Lloyd Davies; Nibbles - Sam Lloyd; Juano - Dylan Thomas; Toro - TBC; Moose - Luc Thomas; Adriano - Connor Farrell John; Fabio - Will Foscett; Jose - TBC.

Their Girls

Rosalie - Becky Owen; Consuela - Elin Morris; Teresita - Kitty Toy; Juanita - Maddie Dawson; Francisca - Mali Thomas; Rosa - Layla Miller; Estella - Talita Umlich; Margarita - Brooklyn Evans; Fernanda - India Evans; Carlita - Jeanine Borg; Bonita - Caitlyn Davies; Gloria - Laura Underhill; Josephina - Gemma Dunlop; Alba - Charlotte Evans Jones; Lola - Aisling McCormack; Mariella - Nim Jenkins.

'EVIL DA'ESH DEATH CULT IS HYDRA-LIKE ACROSS THE WORLD'

IN times of trouble who do you turn to? Is it someone you have known a long time? Someone you have shared adversity with? Someone who has shown you can trust them to be a friend in good times and in bad?

I suspect the answer to all of those question is 'yes', you would look for help and support from someone meeting these criteria. The same is true in foreign and defence policy.

In the last few weeks, I have found myself on rather a lot of planes to meet with allies to talk about terrorism and the fight against Da'esh.

Recently, I returned from a visit to the middle east with colleagues from the defence committee to hold meetings in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Another group from the committee was in Jordan, Lebanon and Cyprus having similar conversations.

In the past, it was easy to think of Da'esh as a problem for Syria and Iraq but now the reach of this evil death cult is growing, hydra-like, with new heads emerging across the world.

Terrorist groups are rebranding themselves with the Da'esh name, with its take-away franchise menu of methods, ideology and slogans.

The use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), suicide bombing and the use of social media as a recruiting tool has allowed terrorism to spread its reach into every home.

IEDs as a terrorist weapon were used to terrible effect in Afghanistan by the Taliban and are widely used across the middle east.

In the 1980s there were on average three suicide bomber incidents a year.

By 2015 this had grown to one a day. At the same time social media attract young people from comfortable homes in Europe to carry out horrific murders in countries they have no links with.

Da'esh and its ideology is destabilising a whole region, enabling proxy wars to be fought because of this instability, and it has been driving millions of desperate people to flee for their lives creating a refugee crisis that is destabilising both the middle east and parts of Europe.

Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey have provided refuge for millions fleeing the wars in Syria and Iraq. Saudi Arabia

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive report from Westminster for The GEM.



has provided visas for people to work there and have access to free healthcare and education. They refuse to use the terms refugee or asylum seeker, as the majority have joined family members in the kingdom. Iraq has millions of internally displaced people.

Talking to the Saudi and Iraqi governments and their military is an essential part of how we fight this evil and make sure the steps we are taking are the most effective.

On visits such as these security is tight.

In Iraq, all visits are undertaken in armoured vehicles with counter IED equipment, often wearing body armour and with personal protection personnel at your side.

In Iraq, we stay in the tightly guarded embassy compound while in Saudi Arabia we were housed in a government guesthouse guarded by their military and moved around in secure cars.

Our conversations and questions in Saudi Arabia ranged from meetings with the chairman of the Gulf Cooperation Council, to meetings with a crown prince, ministers and 'think tanks'.

We also met with members of the Majlis as-Shura, the Consultative Assembly of Saudi Arabia whose 150 members are appointed by the King.

A valuable session was held at the Saudi air force command and control centre where missions are organised for the war raging between Yemeni opposition fighters and Saudi Arabia.

In recent months there has been considerable criticism of Saudi air attacks which have resulted in civilian casualties.

The air force was eager to demonstrate new processes in place to monitor, examine and prevent further civilian casualties and deaths.

In Iraq the timetable was, if at all possible, even more hectic. We started with meetings and briefings from the Ministers for Defence and the Interior followed by a meeting with the Iraqi President.

The National Security Advisor, tribal leaders, Governors of provinces and the Council of Representatives were also eager to talk with

us. Our final meeting was with a United Nations representative who talked of the problems faced by families returning to areas previously controlled by Da'esh.

Each day starts around 7am and has meetings through into the evening as you try and use the time in a country to maximum effect to understand the problems and pressures faced.

While it is clear from our visit that progress is being made, there is also a long way to go to bring stability and confidence to those who have fled, that it is safe to return.

We often heard horror stories of problems faced by the military moving into Ramadi which was taken by Iraqi forces with the help of western airstrikes last December.

Fleeing Da'esh fighters had strewn the city with IEDs, many planted as booby traps in toilets, inside refrigerators and

cupboards. Almost 8,000 buildings in the city and much of its infrastructure need repair and more IEDs are still hidden, posing a long term risk to civilians desperate to return to their homes. Progress is slow and many mine-clearing teams are sadly depleted by deaths in attempts to clear the city.

In this limited space it is difficult to give the full range of problems faced in the fight against Da'esh and the proxy wars being fought within the region.

What is clear is that outside of the military actions, there are huge diplomatic efforts taking place and a desperate need to address governance, economic, and civil liberties issues if long term stability is to be achieved. Was I hopeful? Yes, I think I was.

Everyone we spoke to emphasised their long term friendship and respect for the UK and their desire for our support, our insight and, as one man said to me, our intelligence and understanding.

One thing is sure. This is a long-term commitment requiring face-to-face meetings which build confidence that Britain will stand firm in fighting Da'esh, but will also be a critical friend in repairing the destruction it has wrought.

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- **Industrial illness** including asbestos exposure, mesothelioma, lung cancer, respiratory disease and deafness.

Katie will be at the following venue:

Bridgend - 7 March - 10am to 4pm
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Proud parents Hayley and Jamie Morgan with daughter Evie, and Jonathan Sinclair.

Evie (aged 10) dreams up car of the future!

PUPILS and staff at St Clare's sketch or paint a picture of what they thought a car would look like in the year 2085.

Talented St Clare's pupil, 10-year-old Evie Morgan, was stunned to hear she had won the special prize of a framed rugby shirt signed by the Wales World Cup Squad and a beautiful framed version of her design. Evie had been wondering why her parents were coming to a school had invited local children to draw, assembly!

Online resources award for libraries



LEFT: Helen Pridham, library service development manager, collects the award from Professor Jonathan Deacon.

A CAMPAIGN to promote online resources at libraries in the Bridgend area has scooped a Marketing Excellence Award.

Bridgend Library and Information Service, which is managed by Awen Cultural Trust, a new not-for-profit organisation, was selected from over 40 entries from libraries, museums and archive services across Wales for their successful 'e-Promo' campaign.

Richard Hughes, Awen Chief Executive said: "This is a fantastic achievement for everyone involved in our library services across Bridgend, at the start of Awen's journey as a cultural trust. I congratulate the staff's creativity and innovation in finding a low budget, yet high impact, means of improving the use of some excellent resources which we have available online."

The Marketing Excellence Awards are part of the Welsh Government's 'Attracting the Audience' programme for museums, archives and libraries.

Celtic workshops

AS part of Cwlwm Celtaidd festival in Porthcawl on March 4 - 6, music and dance workshops, from singing to Scottish dancing, will be held at the Grand Pavilion.

The workshops offer the chance to learn about: the harp, with Rachel Hair; Breton music with Tristan Legovic; clog dancing with Ceri Evans and Tudur Phillips; Scottish dancing with Ballochleam Dancers; Manx dancing with Perree Bane and Skeddian Jirag dancers; rhythm with Iolo Whelan and Welsh folk songs with Linda Griffiths and Sorela.

There will also be Breton dancing with Kantref, Welsh folk dancing with Dawnsyrw Mon, and bagpipes with Antwn Owen Hicks

Porthcawl RFC results round-up

PORTHCAWL'S second XV were beaten 39-27 by Heol-y-Cyw second XV, while the under-7s defeated Nantfyllon 20-3.

UNDER-9S - NANTFYLLON 2, PORTHCAWL 6, AND ABERAFAN GREEN STARS 2, PORTHCAWL 2
Tries vs Nanty by Dylan, Piers, Dewi (2) and Scott (2); Aberafan Green Stars Dylan and Piers.

TOWN HOSTS CEREMONY TO HONOUR WAR VETERAN

COWBRIDGE was the slightly unlikely setting this week for a ceremony where the Norwegian Government honoured a World War Two veteran.

Ted Cogdell lives in Cwmbran and is amazingly sprightly for his 97 years. He made the trip to Cowbridge with his grand-daughter Edwina, because Cowbridge travel agent Sam Smith is the Consul for the Norwegian Government.

Ted's war service as an Ack Ack gunner covered almost everything, from the icy waste of Norway, to several years in Burma as a member of General Slim's 'forgotten army'.

However, it was last year that the Norwegian Government decided to award the Commemorative Medal to members of the Norwegian and foreign military, the merchant navy and to civilians as a mark of gratitude for contributions during World War Two.

How Ted came to be nominated is a story all of its own. He told The GEM: "A good friend of mine, Albert Badham, died and was buried there. I remember him being buried alongside six members of the Scots Guards.

"I made enquiries via the internet, and corresponded with a Mr Tommy Skog. I told him my story, and discovered he did not live far from the graveyard where Albert was buried.

"I asked him if he could send me a photo when he was next in the area, and he made a special trip and sent the photo the very next day."

Ted discovered that the graves were well looked after and that the Norwegian people had not forgotten the soldiers who had fought alongside them when the Germans invaded.

Unknown to Ted, Mr Skog had taken note of his war record, and contacted the Norwegian Government.

Soon after, he was surprised to receive an official letter from Norway. It read: The County Governor of Nordland has, in accordance with nominations from the Municipality of Rana and from Mr Tommy Skog, decided that the Government Commemorative Medal shall be awarded to Mr Edward Cogdell, Mr Eric Waldron, and Mr Ray Lewis.

You were all three part of the English 55th Lt. AA Regiment that was put ashore near Harstad. When the Germans moved north towards Nordland, the regiment was ordered to advance southwards.

Just south of Mo i Rana, near Stien at Dalselv, around May 17, 1940, the regiment took

positions. The British troops met with strong resistance from the Germans and thus had to beat a retreat back north through the Dunderlandsdalen valley and across the Saltfjellet.

Here you blew up bridges to slow the German advance. At Krokstrand you were attacked by German fighter planes on May 20, 1940. Your friend and fellow soldier, Albert Badham, was hit and died there. He was buried by the side of the road, but was later moved to Mo Cemetery.

The Regiment retired further north and took part in the Battle of Narvik. But London ordered you to go home, and you were shipped back to England.

Later, you participated in the Battle of Britain at Dover, before you were sent to Asia where you fought the last years of World War II in Burma.

The Norwegian Government thanks you for the effort you made on our behalf during World War II and hereby awards you the Government's Commemorative Medal in appreciation of your contribution.

Sam Smith was delighted to perform the official duty, presenting Ted with the medal and certificate.

Report by PHILIP IRWIN



Ted Cogdell receives his medal from Norwegian Consul, Sam Smith.

What is most surprising about Ted's war service is that he was involved in so many theatres of war.

He said: "Before there was any fighting in Europe, we had just finished our basic training and were told we were going to fight the Russians!

"Russia was invading Finland and we were to support the Finns. We boarded a cruise ship - very comfortable it was too - but two days before we were due to be landed, the Russians took control and we had to

turn back"

The next posting (for a short period) was Deepcut, which is in the news for very different reasons these days, and then Ted's regiment was sent to France, in a vain bid to slow down the advance of the German forces.

They were evacuated back to Britain just before Dunkirk, and this marked the start of his war service.

His gunnery unit was posted to Dover, in expectation of German attacks, and before long

he was in the thick of the Battle of Britain, as the Germans launched wave after wave of air strikes.

Those four months, July to October 31, 1940, were crucial to the war effort, of course, but when the German air attacks eased, the Ack Ack unit waited for their next posting.

The timing of this next posting, to Singapore, was crucial for Ted. Had his unit reached their destination three or four days earlier, he might have spent the rest of the war as a PoW.

As it was, with the boat only two days away, the Japanese swept through and took control. Ted's boat was hastily diverted to Ceylon (as Sri Lanka was known then).

This marked the final phase of Ted's war. From March 1942 on, he was deployed in Burma and became a member of General Slim's 'Forgotten Army'.

He stayed in the Far East until VJ Day, and for Ted, last summer's VJ Day celebration was particularly poignant.

He joined the march of the veterans - refusing to use a walking stick on the day - and he was overwhelmed by the number of people who came up to congratulate him and ask for a photograph.

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'MALCOLM NUGENT COMPETITION' WON BY GLYN EDMUNDS – AFTER DEAD HEAT!

PYLE & Porthcawl Photographic Society held its inaugural Malcolm Nugent Portfolio Competition on Thursday, February 25 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel in Porthcawl.

Each member could enter four prints or four digital images into the competition; one from each of the following genres: abstract, landscape, nature and people. For a portfolio competition a record 17 members entered!

Nigel Nicholas skilfully judged the competition, and not only awarded the points, but also provided an excellent critique on each of the 68 images.

Two people (Richard Craze and Glyn Edmunds) achieved an amazing 79 points out of 80 for first place, so

Nigel had to choose the set of images which, in his opinion, was the final winning set.

After much deliberation, the eventual winner was Glyn Edmunds with his images 'Out of Use', 'Fire in the Sky (Sunrise over Mount Kenya)', 'Time for a Drink' and 'Preparing the Hooks'.

Second place therefore went to Richard Craze with his excellent prints 'Hay Bales', 'Morning Mist', 'Dandelion Head' and 'Union Soldier'.

Third place with 78 points was Geoffrey Baker with his images 'Strange Fungus', 'Calm before the Storm', 'Male Chaffinch Singing' and 'Swansea Airshow Photographers'.

Congratulations to Glyn for winning the competition and a big thank you to all who participated, for making it such an interesting and entertaining evening.

GE



Nature – Time For a Drink.



ABOVE: People – Union Soldier.



*ABOVE: Abstract – Hay Bales.
BELOW: Landscape – Fire in the Sky
(Sunrise over Mount Kenya).*



ABOVE: Portfolio presentation (Glyn is on the right).



Landscape – Morning Mist.



ABOVE: Abstract – Out Of Use.

LEFT: Nature – Dandelion Head.

BELOW: People – Preparing the Hooks.



Month begins with battle of Verdun and ends with The Great Blizzard: PORTHCAWL, MARCH 1916

The new railway station.



ON March 6, the German army began its second offensive against the French army at Verdun – at 7.25am that same day, the first passenger train departed from the new Porthcawl railway station.

The Great Western Railway had not arranged a formal ceremony, on account of the war; however, members of the PUDC felt that such a landmark occasion could not pass without some form of celebration.

Therefore, witnessed by a considerable gathering, Mr WD Lodge the stationmaster supervised the departure of the 7.25 with Coun TG Jones travelling aboard the driver's cabin. Mr Lodge was to retire in February 1919, after 43 years' service. The Porthcawl railway station was to serve the public until September 1963.

Early March was relatively 'Quiet on the Western Front' (EM Remarque), yet other parts of the world were not so fortunate. Fighting continued in Egypt, the Sudan and Russia.

February in West Africa, the German colony of Cameroon fell to the French and British forces, following 17 months of fighting under the command of South African Jan Smuts.

In March, a British-led force pursued the 10,000 German troops who remained in German east Africa. The British Force was in fact the West African Frontier Force, made up of regiments from the British Colonies of Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

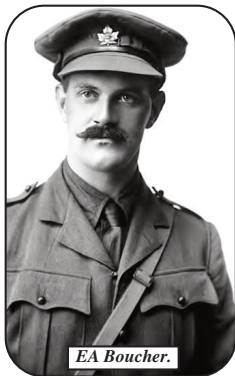
However, it was British officers who commanded the WAFF, of which Lieutenant Charles John Green of Anchorage, Newton was one. Following the war, Lt Green was to take up his post as bank manager at the Metropolitan Bank, John Street and was initiated into the Venables Llewellyn Lodge on July 5, 1919.

The Venables Llewellyn Lodge was the first Masonic Lodge to be consecrated in Porthcawl, June 1916. At that time it was based in the Porthcawl Council Offices, above what is today the 'Spar.'

At the end of the month, south of Ypres, the 2nd Canadian Division underwent a baptism of fire at the Battle of St Eloi Craters. The battle was fought over soggy terrain from March 27 – April 16. Amid the continuous detonation of mines and the capturing of the third German line, 1,373 Canadians were killed.

At the end of the battle, the Germans had regained their initial position in the area.

Among the Canadian contingent was Captain Edgar Boucher of the 31st Battalion (Alberta). Captain Boucher was one of six children born in Maesteg, to Thomas and Miriam Boucher on



EA Boucher.

April 9, 1886.

Having attended Cowbridge Grammar School, Edgar emigrated to Canada on February 23, 1911. He obtained a position at the Imperial Bank of Canada, Calgary and on January 15, 1915 he married Violet Berrington.

Prior to his marriage, on November 14, 1914 Edgar enlisted into 31st Battalion. The Battalion, as part of the Canadian 2nd Division, left Canada under the command of Lt Colonel Arthur Henry Bell on May 17, 1915, arriving in England on May 28.

They became known as 'Bell's Bulldogs.' After training at Salisbury, they embarked for France on September 15, 1915. The battalion fought under the 6th Canadian infantry brigade, 2nd Canadian Division until the end of the war.

Captain Boucher was to survive St Eloi but, sadly, was killed on September 16 at Pozieres, on the first day of the Battle of Flanders-Couelle, the Somme, France.

Captain Boucher's body was not recovered and is remembered on the Vimy Memorial, and on the grave of his parents in St John's Churchyard, Newton.

Edgar's parents moved to 5, the Green Avenue, Porthcawl, some time after the war. Edgar's wife Violet, who had given birth to a baby girl on December 24, 1915, never remarried and died in Calgary in 1986.

On the home front, The Rest and Southerndown homes, which had operated as the St John's auxiliary hospitals since the previous November, were experiencing financial difficulties.

Colonel J Picton Turbeville presided at the annual meeting of subscribers, at which some subscribers objected to the use of the buildings as military hospitals. They withdrew their support when the St John's Ambulance Association's application, requesting that both homes continue to be used as auxiliary military hospitals, was granted.

However, it was also agreed to levy an entrance fee of 2/6d per patient, to cover the increasing cost of food and other essentials. Further, the PUDC was asked to

consider reducing the gas bill.

The PUDC themselves were pursuing the establishment of a lifeboat station in Porthcawl. In a letter to the RNLI, the council pointed out that Porthcawl would not have any difficulty in obtaining a crew, should the request be granted. Of course, it would be another 50 years before Porthcawl would have its lifeboat.

The local tribunal panel held their third meeting this month. The chairman of the panel was Coun John Grace, other members being Couns RE Jones, T James, Messrs GE Blundell and Evan Rogers, with Mr Leonard Byass the military representative.

Most applications were for exemptions due to occupation; or postponements due to personal or financial difficulties. Many of the men who applied were mostly concerned about how their enlistment may have left their loved ones in a vulnerable position.

It is interesting to note that there is no evidence of an application being made by a conscientious objector in Porthcawl throughout the war. Applications were either accepted, rejected, or men were given so many months to put their affairs in order, before having to comply with conscription.

During those months, they were expected to attend the Voluntary Training Corps in preparation for their call-up.

The rest of the month was taken up with local issues, ranging from the need for shelters on the seafloor to the 23rd Battalion being approached to build a new road bridge between the two dock areas, in preparation for a proposed 'open marine lake, which would be a fine asset to Porthcawl.' (Porthcawl News March 30, 1916)

This particular venture, however, would not be undertaken until 1926, when the dock had officially closed following the departure of the shipbreaking consortiums after the war.

The month ended with a 'Great Blizzard' that inflicted much damage to the district. Heavy snowfall and drifting disrupted railway services, rendered many roads impassable and felled telegraph posts, cutting communications throughout the district for 48 hours.

Yet, among all the month's upheaval, one lady was adamant that the PUDC extinguish the light outside her house, as the light was reflecting onto her window, thus attracting a possible Zeppelin raid on her home.

Her concern was fuelled by the comment made that a Zeppelin travelling from Cardiff to Swansea would have to pass over Porthcawl. It was agreed to extinguish the light.

CERI JOSEPH

The new station staff.



Snowfall in Porthcawl.

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Care home residents get new hair salon



Beauticians (above) and hairdressers (above right) were at the opening day.



ABOVE: The cheque for £17,500 is handed over.

LAST year, the RMBI Albert Edward residential home in Porthcawl approached its Friends of the Court to update the hairdressing salon, which had only had minor updates since opening in 1973.

The price tag was £35,000, and Sir Paul Williams liaised with the RMBI to secure match funding.

Front and backwash hair basins were incorporated, as well as specialist overhead dryers to ensure that all residents, including those with limited mobility, could benefit.

On Saturday, February 27 the hairdressing salon was officially opened by Susan Jones, wife of Gareth Jones OBE, Provincial Grand Master of South Wales. We would like to take the

opportunity to thank all of you who have supported the numerous Friends of the Court fundraising initiatives.

These fundraising events allowed RMBI Albert Edward to have a state-of-the-art hairdressing facility for our residents.

Following the opening, everyone enjoyed a prosecco and canape reception in the main lounge where W Bro Alan Gardener presented a cheque to Sir Paul Williams, trustee of the RMBI, for a total of £17,500.

The afternoon was well received and residents were treated to mini manicures while guitarist Nick Russell performed well into the evening. Residents were all eager to use the salon this week with more appointments than ever being booked.

RT

Run sponsored by Mayor's charity



THE St David's run held in Bute Park Cardiff on February 28 and sponsored by one of the Cowbridge Mayor's charities, The Motivation and Learning Trust.

Also supporting the event were the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, the Mayor and Mayoress of Bridgend, and the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, Jayne James.

It was a great day with over 4,500 runners of all

ages and ability taking part in three separate races over distances of 1km, 5km and 10km. The event was blessed with lovely weather, which encouraged large numbers of spectators to turn out who, not only enjoyed the races but also the competition and exhibition put on by teams of students throughout the day, from the Military Preparation College for Training (MPCT) site, the Mayor Coun David Morris reported.

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Local author's book signing at Nickleby's



AUTHOR Wendy Hobbs, who gave up a legal career to follow her dream of becoming a children's fantasy author, attended a book-signing event at Nickleby's in Llanwit Major on Friday, February 26.

Wendy thrilled local book readers by signing copies of her debut novel, *Claudia Quash: The Spell of Pencliff*, which has received an impressive 27 five-star reviews on Amazon.

She drew inspiration for the story from her daughter, also called Claudia, and Pencliff is inspired by Tenby and its award-winning beaches.

On the day of the book signing, Wendy was even able to squeeze in a talk with children at Colwinston Primary School.

ABOVE:
Wendy had time to meet Colwinston schoolchildren.



ABOVE:
Author Wendy Hobbs signing books in Nickleby's in Llanwit Major

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Digwyddiadau wythnosol

Dydd Llun:

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Clwb gwyddoniaeth i blant Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg y Ferch o'r Sgêr, amser cinio, am ddim.

Clwb ieuencid (Bl. 9-11), YGG Llangynwyd, amser cinio, am ddim.

Clwb celf a chrefft i blant Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Bro Ogwr, 3:30 - 4:30, £1 y sesiwn.

Clwb ar ôl Ysgol, YGG Llangynwyd, 3:30pm-4:45pm, £1.50 y sesiwn.

Dydd Mawrth:

Bore coffi Pen-y-bont i ddysgwyr a Chymry Gymraeg, Caffi Tŷ Coffi Pen-y-bont, 10yb - 11yb.

Clwb animeiddio i blant Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw, amser cinio, am ddim.

Dydd Mercher:

Clwb gwersi DJ, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, amser cinio.

Clwb ieuencid, YMCA Pen-y-bont, 6 - 8yh, £1 y sesiwn.

Dydd Iau:

Clwb gemau iard i blant Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cynwyd Sant, amser cinio, am ddim.

Siop Siarad, Siop Yr Hen Bont, Pen-y-bont. Cyfle i ddysgwyr holi cwestiynau, ymarfer a gloywi eu Cymraeg, ynghyd â dysgwyr o'r un lefel. Pob Dydd Iau Grŵp 1: 12:45pm-1:30pm. Ymarfer patrymau iaith lefelau Mynediad a Sylfaen. Grŵp 2: 1:30pm - 2:15pm. Dechrau sgwrsio yn Gymraeg. Grŵp 3: 2:15pm - 3pm. I bobl sy'n gallu cynnal sgwrs Gymraeg.

Dydd Gwener:

Clwb ieuencid, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, amser cinio.

Am ragor o fanylion cysylltwch â ni! Menter Bro Ogwr 01656 732200

menter@broogwr.org / 07774 032624.

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Cymdeithas Hanes Bro Ogwr Sgyrsiau am hanes a diwylliant Cymreig i ddysgwyr Gymraeg.

Oes gennych chi dddordeb mewn hanes? Os felly dewch yn llw i noson yng nghwmni Dr Donald Williams. Pwnc y noson fydd meddygon Myddfai, bydd pob croeso i baw fynychu. Mae'r noson yn cael ei gynnal yng nghlwb criced Tondur ar nos Lun 14eg o Fawrth am 7.30yh.

Use your Welsh around Bridgend County!

MENTER Bro Ogwr promotes and furthers the use of the Welsh language in Bridgend county.

Our intention is to raise the profile of the Welsh language in the Bridgend county by increasing the opportunities for residents to use the Welsh language in a variety of fields. This is what's happening this month:

Weekly events

Monday:

Porthcawl coffee morning for Welsh learners and speakers, YMCA Porthcawl, 11am - 12pm.

Science club for Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg y Ferch o'r Sgêr pupils, lunchtime, free.

Youth club (years 9 - 11), YGG Llangynwyd, lunchtime, free.

Arts and crafts club for Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Bro Ogwr pupils, 3:30pm - 4:30pm, £1 a session.

Clwb ar ôl Ysgol, YGG Llangynwyd,

3:30pm - 4:45pm, £1.50 a session.

Tuesday:

Bridgend coffee morning for Welsh learners and speakers, Tŷ Coffi Bridgend, 10am - 11am.

Animation club for Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw pupils, lunchtime, free.

Wednesday:

DJ lessons club, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, lunchtime.

Youth club, Bridgend YMCA, 6pm - 8pm, £1 a session.

Thursday:

Playground games club for Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cynwyd Sant pupils, lunchtime, free.

Siop Siarad, Siop Yr Hen Bont, Bridgend. A chance for Welsh learners to ask questions and practice their Welsh with other learners. Every Thursday group 1: 12:45pm - 1:30pm. Practicing Myndiad and Sylfaen patterns, group 2: 1:30pm - 2:15pm. Start chatting in Welsh, group 3: 2:15pm - 3pm. For those who can hold a conversation in Welsh.

Friday:

Youth club, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd, lunchtime.

Welsh talks about Welsh history and culture for Welsh learners.

Are you interested in history? If so come along to an evening with Dr Donald Williams.

The evening will focus on the doctors of Myddfai, everyone is welcome to attend. The evening will be held at Tondur Cricket Club on Monday, March 14 at 7.30pm.

For more information contact us now! Menter Bro Ogwr 01656 732200

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FLY THE FLAG – the Red Dragon, that is! SAYS AUTHOR

FROM the Six Nations to the European football finals, the Red Dragon flag of Wales will be flying proudly.

However, the author of a new book on the history of the Welsh flag has called on people not to fly the Union Jack from which Wales is excluded.

Author Siôn Jobbins believes that for Welsh people to fly the Union Jack is to “hoist up the white flag and surrender Welsh nationality”.

His comments appear in a new comprehensive history of the iconic Welsh flag published by Y Lolfa – the publishers who recently launched little Red Dragon flag stickers for motorists to place over the Union Jack flag on the newly designed driving license.

“Flying the Union Jack means always, in the final analysis, deferring to Westminster and airbrushing Wales from the picture,” said Siôn Jobbins.

“Where we have the Union Flag – such as the

Olympic Games in a few months’ time, we’ll see that Wales is invisible and doesn’t exist.

“To fly the Union Jack is to agree ultimately that our Welshness can only be in the image allowed within Westminster rule and sensibilities.”

The book details the story behind one of the world’s most distinctive flags and Wales’s greatest symbol. Jobbins also makes some very interesting discoveries. Readers may be surprised to know that the popular flag was only made the official flag of Wales in 1959.

Jobbins recalls campaigns to have the Welsh flag recognised had included local nationalist activists and Bangor students climbing up the flag pole on Caernarfon Castle’s Eagle Tower on St David’s Day in 1932 to tear down the Union Jack.

The vast majority of Welsh people may also be unaware that the official flag of Wales in the 1950s was not the one they now know and love. Rather, it was the Welsh Office design which was the official

flag. It was only following a mass campaign led by the Eisteddfod Gorsedd in 1958 that the UK cabinet decided in 1959 that the familiar and popular flag would, at last, be the official symbol.

Jobbins also suggests May 28 should be the ‘Flag Day’ of the Red Dragon, as it was on this day in 1865 that the first recorded flying of the flag in its modern incarnation was made. The flag was flown aboard the Mimosa ship as it sailed from Liverpool with the first settlers for the Welsh colony in Patagonia.

Siôn Jobbins was born in Zambia and raised in Cardiff and is also the author of the popular book *The Welsh National Anthem: its Story, its Meaning*; also published by Y Lolfa.

The Red Dragon – The Story of the Welsh Flag is full of photographs, cuttings and illustrations and sure to appeal to both visitors to Wales and locals alike and is by Siôn Jobbins (£3.99, Y Lolfa), available now from all good bookshops.

Making monsters figures of fun

WITH others, I hugely enjoyed WNO’s production of *The Marriage of Figaro* last week.

Mozart was gifted far beyond most humans, but he devoted his incomparable genius to serve the cause of social justice for all – to fight the evil of the unprincipled power of the rich to oppress the poor.

Mozart risked everything, his career and his personal safety, if the aristocrats had bribed thugs, as they did elsewhere, to put the upstart in his place.

But, unlike other social reformers, from

Tom Paine to Clement Attlee, he used brilliant melody and humour, to show the gross stupidity of a social system based upon the wealth of a few, which still allows figures like Rupert Murdoch and Donald Trump to rule the turgid minds of millions, through the medium of money and selfishness.

Amadeus, we need you to put these monsters where they belong, singing on the stage, for us to laugh at. **C N Westerman, Brynna.**

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

YOUR STATE PENSION IS CHANGING

THE State Pension is a regular payment from the government most of us can claim when we reach State Pension age. It is part of the National Insurance system.

On 6 April 2016, the new State Pension will be introduced for women born on or after 6 April 1953, and men born on or after 6 April 1951. The new State Pension system will make State Pensions less complicated in the future.

If you were born before these dates, you’ll continue to receive your State Pension under the current system, even if you defer claiming it.

State Pension ages are also changing. By 2018, women’s State Pension age will rise to 65, and by 2020 both men’s and women’s State Pension age will have increased to 66. By 2028, both men’s and women’s State Pension age will have increased to 67. You can check yours by searching for ‘State Pension age calculator’ on GOV.UK.

HOW MUCH STATE PENSION WILL I GET?

This will depend on your National Insurance (NI) record so not everyone will get the same amount. You’ll normally need at least 10 qualifying years to get any new State Pension. These can be from before or after 6 April 2016, and don’t have to be ten years in a row.

For most people, each extra year added to their National Insurance record from April 2016 will add 1/35th of £155.65 (the 2016/17 rate) to their future new State Pension, until they reach State Pension age or the full rate.

No one who qualifies for the new State Pension should get less than they would have received under the old system, based on their own contributions to April 2016.

WHAT IF YOU ARE OR WERE IN A ‘CONTRACTED-OUT’ PRIVATE PENSION SCHEME?

If you are or were in a salary-related pension scheme at work (for example, ‘final salary’ or ‘career average’), or you were in another type of pension scheme at work before April 2012, you are likely to have been ‘contracted-out’ of the Additional State Pension (this is part of the current State Pension system). Some stakeholder and personal pension schemes were also ‘contracted-out’.

If you have been contracted-out of the Additional State Pension this means you paid less into the NI system and built up



Department
for Work &
Pensions

some private pension instead to replace part of your State Pension. The lower NI you (and your employer) paid to the State at that time, reflected the fact that you opted out of some of the State Pension. Your private pension should include an amount that, in most cases, will be at least equivalent to the Additional State Pension you contracted-out of. The actual amount you’ll receive from your contracted-out pension scheme will depend on the scheme.

HOW CAN I INCREASE MY STATE PENSION?

You may be able to increase your new State Pension if:

- You can pay voluntary contributions to fill gaps you may have for recent years on your NI record. Check your position before you do this to ensure you can benefit.
- You are working and paying NI contributions.
- You choose to defer claiming your new State Pension when you reach State Pension age. Not everyone can defer – please check whether you are eligible.
- You receive NI credits which can help fill gaps in your NI record.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CREDITS THAT YOU MIGHT GET

You can get credits in various circumstances which might include:

- Caring for one or more disabled people, for at least 20 hours a week.
- Receiving certain benefits, such as Jobseeker’s Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance or Carer’s Allowance.
- Caring for a grandchild or other family member under age 12.

Find out what this means for you by visiting www.gov.uk/yourstatepension

If you are aged 55 or over you can ask for a State Pension statement for an estimate of your new State Pension.



Department
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Pensions

IF YOU WERE



born on or after
6th April 1951

OR



born on or after
6th April 1953

THIS APPLIES
TO YOU

Your
State Pension
is changing



Knowing how much to expect from your State Pension will help you plan for your future

The State Pension is being changed in April 2016 to make it easier to understand in the future. How much you get depends on your National Insurance record. If you’re **55 or over** you can request a State Pension statement based on the new rules.

To find out more information about what you’re entitled to and how to order a State Pension statement visit:

www.gov.uk/yourstatepension

'VOTE' PLEA TO HELP INSTAL RUNNING TRACK... School sets its sights on a lasting memorial to Tanya

Y BONT FAEN Primary School has secured a 'Bags of Help' grant from Tesco, to fund a running track inspired by the memory of local woman, Tanya Floyd (40), whose sudden and tragic death last October rocked the community.

Now the school her children attend needs local people to vote with their Tesco tokens!

The ambitious plan will see an all-weather running track installed on the school's playing field, and it will also be shared by the children at neighbouring school, Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and available for community use too.

Y Bont Faen Primary school has beaten off competition from many of the 5,000 other applicants to become one of a handful of recipients of a guaranteed grant from the Tesco 'Bags of Help' scheme, funded via the Government's plastic bag tax.

Tesco customers in Cowbridge, Penarth, Barry and Culverhouse Cross will now vote to see which of the three lucky winners from the Vale region will scoop the top award of £12,000.

The second prize will be £10,000 and the second runner-up will

secure £8,000. The only way to vote is to visit one of the above Tesco stores, and the voting ends at close of business this Sunday. The good news is that the school is certain to get one of the three prizes.

Victoria Barker, whose twins are in the same class as Tanya's twin boys, told The GEM: "Mrs. Adams grabbed me in the yard on the last day of term before Christmas, to ask me if I would help write a grant application to the Tesco 'Bags of Help' fund.

"It took us just a couple of minutes to come to the conclusion that this was the opportunity we had been looking for to create a memorial to Tanya.

"The criteria stipulated that the project had to embrace the natural environment and promote healthy living. So, a small group of us put down our last-minute Christmas shopping lists and created a bid for a running surface that could be used all year round."

Tanya, a teacher at Undy Primary in Monmouthshire, who headed up PE at the school, was always at the front of the queue at Y Bont Faen to urge the virtues of more physical activity at the school.

Her three boys, twins Joseph and Elis and younger brother Finley,

Pupils from Y Bont Faen Primary School and friends of the Floyd children, showing their support for the campaign at Tesco... Left to right: Emma Barker, Isabella Vaughan, Elodie Vaughan, Ben Davies, and Baz Barker.



...go to school at Y Bont Faen, where she herself was once a pupil.

"Tanya's favorite sporting activity was running, whether it was for fun, fitness, fundraising or with her family.

"So this seemed the obvious choice - to create a lasting memorial, which honoured her strong beliefs in physical activity and would also provide a much-needed

facility to be enjoyed by hundreds of children too.

"A lasting legacy we can all be proud of - so please, go and vote for us!" said Julia Adams, headteacher at Y Bont Faen.

The grant from Tesco will just be the start of this project and plans are under way at the school to organise a children's sponsored run to help raise additional funds to enhance the project.

Details of the run,

which is likely to take place after Easter, will be announced soon.

For further information, call Mrs Julia Adams at Y Bont Faen Primary School 01446 772374 or Victoria Barker - 074111 76416.

'Aston Martin boost for Wales'

LEAVE.EU co-chairman Richard Tice welcomed news that Aston Martin plans to open a new car manufacturing plant in St Athan, describing it "as a clear vote of confidence in British manufacturing, in the EU or out."

"Goodness knows, we could use a boost in Wales after losing so many

steel jobs as a result of harmful EU policies on energy, Chinese export dumping and state aid," he said.

"Aston Martin's £200m investment follows more than a billion pounds of investment by overseas car manufacturers in the UK in the last year, showing that leaving the EU is not a risk, but an opportunity to create more jobs."

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Appointments are limited and on a first-come, first-served basis, so simply call your nearest participating solicitor before 31st March, mentioning our Tenovus Cancer Care Free Wills Month to leave your lasting legacy.

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Our Free Wills Month campaign pays for simple Wills. If your Will is complex, you can pay the solicitor for extra advice. There is no obligation to include a gift to Tenovus Cancer Care. The campaign is intended for those aged 50 and over.

Give hope. Help cope.
tenovuscancercare.org.uk/freewills



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Music charity's bid for Lottery cash

A LOCAL charity that puts on concerts in hospices and care homes has a chance to win £50,000 in a National Lottery competition that will be featured this Friday on ITV Wales.

Music in Hospitals is the charity, and it has recently staged concerts in Llantwit Major, Barry, Llandough Hospital and Porthcawl.

The charity's bid, part of ITV's 'The People's

Projects' competition, will be shown on ITV, Friday, March 4, between 6pm and 6.30pm.

To vote for the Music in Care Homes project to win £50,000, please visit: <https://www.thepeopleprojects.org.uk/projects/vie/w/music-and-memories>

The charity's ITV appeal can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eee7Okp62DU>

Valeways walks

ON Tuesday, March 1 at 10am, Crwydro meet at Ynys y Barri, Coffee Cove Cafe. At 2.30pm the Coffee Shop Strollers will meet at Llantwit Major Town Hall car park.

On Sunday, March 6 at 2pm Cennin Pedr a'r Castell will start from the Fox and Hounds car park in St Brides Major, and at 2.30pm a Mothering Sunday walk will begin from Llantwit Major Town Hall car park, (SS 968687).

On Wednesday, March 9 the Coffee Shop Strollers will meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry. On Thursday, March 10 the daffodils at Castle upon Alun can be appreciated; meet at the car park opposite the Fox and Hounds, St Brides Major for this at 10.30am.

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Two local firms pick up business awards



From left: Keith Palmer, CEO of South Wales Chamber of Commerce with jamjar PR, winners of the excellence in marketing and communications award.

TWO local businesses have triumphed at this year's Wales Business Awards, organised by the South Wales Chamber of Commerce, in association with the University of South Wales.

Bridgend-based TSW Training won the award for excellence in community relations, sponsored by Royal Bank of Scotland, while jamjar PR of Cowbridge won the excellence in marketing and communications category at the awards ceremony on February

25 at the National Museum of Wales.

TSW Training offers work-based learning apprenticeships, commercial qualifications, organisational development initiatives, Jobs Growth Wales opportunities and employs more than 50 members of staff. It supports marginalised and vulnerable individuals to become more active members of their local community.

Cowbridge-based jamjar PR was founded in 2012, and specialises in PR, marketing and digital media. It has won a number of Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) awards, including Wales' outstanding small consultancy of the year for three consecutive years.

Lib-Dem regional list

ELUNED PARROTT will head the Welsh Liberal Democrat's South Wales Central regional list at the Assembly elections.

The order

is: 1. Eluned Parrott, 2. John Dixon, 3. Karen Roberts, 4. Cadan ap Tomos.

Smart meters in roll out

SMART meters are the new generation of gas and electricity meters. They bring an end to estimated bills, tell you how much gas and electricity you are using in pounds and pence and put you in control of your energy use.

Everyone in Wales and the rest of Great Britain will be offered a smart meter by 2020 by their energy supplier.

How do I get a smart meter? Smart meters are installed by energy suppliers, at no additional cost.

For more information about how to get and use your smart meter and what to expect from the installation, visit Smart Energy GB's website smartenergygb.org



LEFT: Sponsor Jon Field, Royal Bank of Scotland (on left), with the team from TSW Training and their award for excellence in community relations.

First time buyer homes

NEWYDD is holding an open day on March 7 for people to view one of six first-time buyer homes for sale in Ogmores-by-Sea, as part of the Vale of Glamorgan Aspire2Own Shared Equity Scheme.

Working in partnership with the Vale Council, two-bedroom properties built by David Wilson Homes are offered for sale at Ocean View for £112,000, equating to 70 per cent of the full market value, to people with a local connection to the St Brides Major community council area.

IN BRIEF

CHOCALOLICS are invited to Dyffryn Gardens this Easter to find clues that will lead to a chocolate prize.

The Cadbury Easter egg hunts run on March 25 – 28, from 11am to 3.30pm; £2 per trail; normal admission prices to Dyffryn apply, and the house will be open to visitors.

For more information about Dyffryn Gardens, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dyffryn-gardens.

Amber Fairs

An antiques and collectables fair will be held at the Hi Tide, Mackworth Road, Porthcawl, on Sunday, March 13: antiques and collectables galore! Open 10am – 4pm; entrance £1.

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BAKE-OFF FOR CHARITY



Milton Parathyras (left) of Venture Photography is presented with his certificate by James Sommerin.

A CARDIFF competition and defending the title as he won last year. George Thomas Hospice Care was established in 1984 and has helped more than 24,000 patients and their families in Cardiff. Services the charity provide are free of charge at its hospice centre based in Whitchurch Hospital grounds and in patients' homes.

Award-winning chef James Sommerin judged the competition in aid of George Thomas Hospice Care and crowned Milton Parathyras of Venture Photography the winner.

Gareth Howells, general manager at Wessex Garages on Hadfield Road, explained: "We held the Great Wessex Bake Off last year and due to its success we decided we had to host the event again. We would like to say congratulations to Milton on winning the

For more information, please call Wessex Garages on Hadfield Road on 02921 677 614, visit www.wessexgarages.com, follow the company on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/wessexgarages](https://twitter.com/wessexgarages) or log on to www.facebook.com/wessexgarages.

WHAT'S ON, AND WHERE IN YOUR AREA?

Vale AM's surgeries

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding surgeries on March 4 from 11.30am - 12.30pm at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry CF63 4HD; and at 4pm - 6pm in St Athan West Camp Community Centre.

On Saturday, March 5 she will hold a surgery from 10am - 11am at Cowbridge Town Hall. No appointments necessary.

Cowbridge Country Market

WE are back for the new season and open on Friday, March 4 with all our usual home-made produce and new season's marmalade.

We look forward to seeing all our customers in the Lesser Hall from 9.30am, on the first and third Fridays of the month.

Enfys craft fair

ENFYS craft fair on Saturday, March 5, will have cards and gifts available for Mothering Sunday (March 6) at St Francis Millennium Hall, Barry, from 10am-4pm.

For more information, contact Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

Tax help

TAXHELP for Older People (TOP) will hold a free income tax surgery for older people on a restricted income, at Roz Couzen's Chiropody Surgery, Unit 4, Commercial House,

Commercial Street, Llantwit Major CF61 1RB on Monday, March 7 from 10am-midday.

No appointment is necessary. To access TOP's helpline, call 0845 691 3321 or 01308 488066. Home visits can also be arranged via this helpline for people unable to attend the surgery.

Eye advice

TO mark National Glaucoma Week, Specsavers from Barry will be at Age Connects' Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, on Tuesday, March 8 (10am-12 midday) to give advice on general eye care and Glaucoma. No appointment is needed; contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Dinas Powys Local History Society

THE next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, March 8 at 7.30pm in Kynance Hall. There will be a lecture by Mr Graham Oxlade on 'Reacting to the Historical Landscape'.

Free admission, visitors welcome. Enquiries to Betty Williams on 02920 513524.

Cowbridge U3A

THE next Cowbridge U3A monthly meeting will be a talk entitled 'Getting to Grips with Card and Other Fraud', by DCs Ian Roche and Tyrone Peach at 2pm on Wednesday, March 9 in Cowbridge Town

Hall.

Visitors welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments.

Barry Mothers' Union

A COFFEE morning will be held in All Saints' church hall, Park Road on Saturday, March 12 at 10.30am. Stalls will include quality gifts, spring stall, cake stall and a raffle. Admission is £1 to include tea or coffee. All proceeds to Mothers' Union charities.

Broadband advice for businesses

A SUPERFAST Business Wales workshop will be held at the Business Centre, Barry on March 16 and May 19; also Business in Focus, Units 14 and 15, Bocam Park, Pencoed on March 17 and April 28 (all from 10am - 12.30pm).

They offer free, independent advice and guidance for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

For further information, call 03000 603000 or visit www.businesswales.gov.wales/superfastbusinesswales/ or superfast@businesswales.org.uk.

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This is a Secret that is worth uncovering...

THE much-taunted 'Hollywood remake' of foreign language films continues apace, seemingly as those films made away from the glare of Tinseltown manage to be more inventive, original and un-reliant on brands and franchises as those made by the big studios.

The latest film to find its roots in overseas source material is *Secret In Their Eyes*, a remake of the 2009 Argentinian film *The Secret In Their Eyes* (note the wholly necessary removal of the word 'The' from the title) that won an Oscar for best foreign language film.

It tells the story of Ray Kasten (Chiwetel Ejiofor), an agent investigating the activities of a mosque in post 9/11 America; when the body of young girl is found in a

dumpster near the mosque, it turns out to be the daughter of his co-worker Jessica (Julia Roberts).

Determined to go after the man he thinks is responsible, Ray finds lips sealed about the suspect, and has to try and win the support of a DA, Claire (Nicole Kidman) to solve the murder...

Given its cast, pedigree (this is film from writer/director Billy Ray, who has received several nominations for work such as *Shattered Glass*, *Breach* and *Captain Phillips*), hard-hitting subject matter and release date, *Secret In Their Eyes* would be something discussed in awards circles.

That the buzz around the film was non-existent may lead you to believe that the film is something of a damp squib, but while it is a film that's slow-paced and slow-burning, it's also a more than competent thriller that, without having seen the original, pulls you one way and then another

before its devastating climax.

Ray's experience in serious material is the solid foundations here. It's shot through with a dark sense of foreboding from the off, and the technique of the story veering between 2002 and the present-day is one that, although occasionally distracting, manages to grant weight to both stories being told.

The story veers away from the Argentinian original (which itself was adapted from a novel) in set-up, thus distancing itself from something that was so well-received initially, but carries over certain elements, most explicitly a sequence set in a baseball stadium that doesn't have a hope of trumping the original, but instead plays out grittily and far more subdued, a statement which could be applied to the film as a whole.

Using the war on terror as a subtext, and its 2002 setting, the film posits a world where information is

power, and those wielding the information carry the greatest power. It plays intriguingly on the notion of one life versus the possibility of hundreds, thousands, even millions, and the morality of it all, and Ray's script uses this a framework to build upon a story of personal loss, defiance and responsibility.

It's a cast populated by superb actors who get more than a chance to shine. Ejiofor is the man being driven by a desire to right a wrong, who has spent 'every night for 13 years' trying to find the man

he believes is responsible for the murder, and it's a passionate and committed performance by the always-strong actor.

Julia Roberts, who has been leaning towards more dramatic work of late, is also very good as the heartbroken mother, a character whose sadness and sense of anger is beautifully played out, the emotions just about being kept in check, while Nicole Kidman (*Paddington* notwithstanding) offers up her best performance in a while as a DA caught between doing

what is right and what suits the needs of the greater good.

Where it falls short is in its lack of real power; while there is meat on the bones of this story, it's hard to swallow with any real conviction, no matter how well-acted, while the distraction of the two timelines sometimes isn't clear enough in its execution.

However, *Secret In Their Eyes* still a more than solid thriller that, while not a patch on its foreign cousin, will keep you engaged until its neat finale.

VERDICT: Solid, unspectacular, well-

acted but lacking any real power. *Secret In Their Eyes* makes a good stab of telling its story, and while it's more than engaging, it doesn't quite leave you with a sense of great fulfilment. The performances are strong, the story (especially the denouement) intriguing, but ultimately this is a step above 'by-the-numbers'. *Enjoyable.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Secret In Their Eyes* (2009), *The Departed* (2006).



by
GARETH JAMIESON
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Cowbridge Art Society
ON March 3 we will have a demonstration by Cardiff artist Julie Shakston whose theme will be 'Alchemy - Exploring Mixed Media'.

On Thursday, March 10 we have a Gyotaku demonstration (a Japanese fish printing process) by Deborah Withey, a Welsh-American artist (www.deborah-withey.com).

The society meets each Thursday

7pm - 9 pm at Old Hall, Cowbridge and visitors and new members are welcome (occasional visitor's fee £3).

Mayor's charity coffee
THE Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian is holding a coffee morning in the Mayor's Parlour at the Town Hall, Cowbridge in aid of Motivation Learning Trust and Prostate Cymru on Saturday, March 5 from 10.30am - 12.30pm. All welcome.

Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D920.

● £2,000: 259007.
● The rollover, which is currently £1,000, was not won this week.

● £10: 403231, 386261, 617566, 840006, 864892, 660568, 751138, 322394, 815253, 775947, 586031, 373175, 712872, 285297, 678227, 128284, 950896, 466995, 374262, 1985175.
● £5: 370695, 227445, 744610, 109937, 420032, 911135, 563782, 545164, 620767, 710935,

704940, 371084, 473313, 967011, 421048, 257155, 952691, 281930, 604655, 130412, 185776, 807523, 444884, 559211, 333771, 347767, 917349, 205740, 440223, 750243, 270581, 763051, 616673, 938920, 728959, 573479, 553947, 782809, 804676, 592354, 471985, 369833, 101707, 438260, 115695, 390548, 300791, 157800, 520458, 675326, 507853, 212253, 269884, 431556, 785047, 164473, 495572, 991, 855, 1929352.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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River Africa's trip to Malawi – and how the fundraising in Wales helps the charity's work

by GEM REPORTER

OVER the past three years The GEM has reported on the fundraising efforts of Daniel Nadzo for the River Africa charity – and on the charity's work.

Daniel, who works in marketing and web design, told The GEM: "River Africa is committed to the empowerment of chronically poor people in hard-to-reach marginalised rural areas in Africa.

"It is in that context that River Africa made a trip to Malawi in September 2015, with the explicit goal of seeking to improve the quality of rural lives through the establishment of capacity building projects.

"For the past two years, the charity has been considering setting up a schools' programme as a way of providing 'learning outside the classroom' opportunities for pupils from Welsh Schools.

"Students can volunteer in the following fields: medicine, education, conservation, community life, agriculture and care of

orphans.

"Linda Samuel and I visited Malawi, which saw us travel across the country making very strong links with local grass roots organisations working in the development and poverty reduction arena.

"We made links with David Zuzanani of CCAP (Church of Central African Presbyterian) Alan Ndari, headmaster of Chisi School and Joy Mwandama of YODEP (Youth for Development and Productivity).

"These links will spearhead the proposed schools volunteer programme. Furthermore, River Africa agreed in principle to pay school fees for 42 pupils of Chisi School.

"River Africa has also been very grateful for fundraising opportunities presented to its volunteers by Sally Fisher the community champion at Tesco Penarth.

"It goes without saying, without these fundraising opportunities, River Africa would not have been able to travel to Malawi and to change people's lives there."

For more information, go to www.riverafrica.org.



Daniel with Sally Fisher the community champion at Tesco Penarth.



Daniel has conquered Mount Kilimanjaro on a number of occasions to raise funds for River Africa.



Linda Samuel and Daniel on the trip to Malawi in September.

Official opening of Welsh medium school in Barry

AFTER opening its doors to pupils last November, Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant recently held an official opening to celebrate the new building.

The redevelopment is part of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's school investment programme, aiming to deliver 'state-of-the-art teaching' across the Vale.

Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant had previously shared premises with Oak Field Primary School, who relocated in their own purpose-built premises in the grounds of the original site in September 2015.

The building then underwent 'substantial refurbishment' and the newly-developed Welsh medium school now has the capacity to accommodate 420 pupils and meet an increasing

demand for education in Welsh.

Refurbishment includes flexible IT resources in all classrooms, offering state-of-the-art learning for all children.

Headteacher Rhydian Lloyd said: "It has been fantastic to open the doors of our new school to the children and witness the enthusiasm with which they are taking to the new environment.

"The new building offers many practical improvements that have enhanced the learning experience. It helps us as teachers, to make sure that the children get as much from their schooling as possible and are fully engaged."

Coun Chris Elmore, cabinet member for children's services and schools, said: "The Vale Council's school investment programme continues to reshape the way in which we provide education for our children in primary and secondary schools. The redevelopment of Ysgol Gwaun Y Nant is another example of this.

"The increased number of places at the school shows that we are committed to meeting the demand for Welsh medium education, and the state-of-the-art features in the school, will provide a wonderful experience for the students, allowing them to learn in new and interesting ways."

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ROADWORKS REPORT

Roadworks: Junction 34 Miskin Interchange. A4055 Port Road, from junction with Culverhouse Cross to its junction with Nant Isaf, Wenvoe. Barry Road, Barry at the Court Road/Jenner Park entrance. **Temporary traffic control:** A4222 Cowbridge to Ystradowen and B4265 Ewenny to Floodgate Roundabout, Llantwit Major. Port Road, Wenvoe from the junction of Barry Docks link road. Ruthin Road, Ruthin. A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (the Causeway). A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (bottom of Ship Hill). St Brides Road, Wick (adjacent to the new development). Rectory Road junction with St John's View, St Athan. Main Road, Ogmore by Sea. Maendy Road, Aberthaw near Cae Loi Farm. Paget Road, Barry Island at its junction with Clive Road and Plymouth Road. Penlan Road, Llandough. Wick Road, St Brides Major. South Road, Sully. High Street, Llantwit Major.

Jazz funding bid

VALE Jazz organisers have submitted a bid for funding with the Arts Council for Wales to enable them to hold this year's event planned to take place in and around Barry Island on May 20-22 – following the success of the first event last year.

They are asking members of the public to email the Welsh Arts Council at information@artscouncilofwales.org.uk with letters of support quoting reference: 20160376.

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Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama hosts 'Shakespeare competition'



Judges Katherine Kettle, Maggie Fletcher and Luke MacGregor.



Cathedral School students Amber Snowton and Aoife Pryor, pictured with teacher Caroline Drewett-Mansell, received highly commended.



Included in the picture are Brynteg School students Jessica Derrick, Millie Evans and Megan Thomas with teacher Paula Beesley.

'ED FORCE ONE' HEADS FOR USA



OPERATED by Air Atlanta Icelandic and piloted by lead singer, Bruce Dickinson, Iron Maiden's Boeing, 747 aka Ed Force One, took off last Friday, February 19, at Cardiff Airport bound for Fort Lauderdale and the start of the band's 'Book Of Souls' world tour.

THE Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama was again the venue when students from four schools competed in the English - Speaking Union Performing Shakespeare competition for a place in the UK Final on March 8 at the Gielgud Theatre in London.

Ena Davies, the ESU competition organiser, commented on the continuing high standard which last year resulted in the Welsh students winning all three prizes in London, while judges Maggie Fletcher (chair), Katherine Kettle and Luke MacGregor faced a difficult task in choosing the winners.

Maggie Fletcher, in announcing the winners, commended all the students on the very high standard.

The winner of the monologue prize was confirmed as Jessica Derrick of Brynteg School, with Steffan Leonard and Manon Keeble of Bryntawe School securing the duologue prize. Aoife Pryor, of the Cathedral School, won the highly commended award.

Derek Morgan, branch chairman, wished the winning students continued success on the stage in London on March 8 and paid a tribute to Ena Davies for her impeccable organisation of the competition on behalf of the south Wales branch.

Forthcoming branch events : Secondary schools public speaking final at Ty Hywel, Cardiff Bay, at 1.30pm on March 14.

Details from Derek Morgan on 01656 669129 or email dwcaym@googlemail.com.

Mountain movies

THE international Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour will bring big screen stories to Porthcawl's Grand Pavilion on March 16.

The festival tour showcases films from the global mountain culture and sports community, selected from over 350 entered in the 40th anniversary edition of the Banff Mountain Film Festival, held in the Canadian Rockies in November 2015.

Scouts' jumble
ON Saturday, March 5 the 11th Barry Sea Scouts will hold a jumble sale on Ilminster Street, Barry. Doors open at 2pm; entry 20p for adults.

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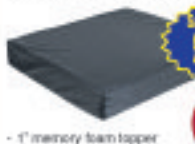
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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

An expert's advice can avoid disputes

BRENDAN SWEENEY of David Prosser & Co Solicitors writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will. A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate.

Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax.

It is important when people make Wills that they are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when

they make a Will and ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will after taking advice is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney, whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Bring your feet to the Vale Podiatry!

SPRING is just around the corner so (hopefully) there is a chance we may soon be able to step out of our wellies and think about sandals!

It seems such a long time since our feet were exposed, so now is the time to take a long hard look and do some preparation.

It's not good enough to slap on a bit of nail varnish if the nails themselves are misshapen and thickened.

Your sandals may be beautiful, but if your heels are rough and cracked, it's going to spoil the picture.

Angela and Sarah of Vale Podiatry and Chiropody are able to help you whatever your problems are. We have, between us, many years of experience working in private and NHS clinics.

We work with you to achieve the best possible outcomes; if you are struggling to reach your feet for routine care, or need advice to help you achieve your sporting goals – from nail cutting to nail surgery.

Foot pain or discomfort does not need to be tolerated. We offer friendly, professional care from our clinics in Llantwit Major and Cowbridge.

So bring your feet along and let's see what we can do!

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Angela Battick
Dip.Pod.M.M.Ch.S.

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David Prosser & Co is the trading name of DP Law Limited.

Lucky winner of stairlift draw



ABOVE: James Studdart presents Mrs Harding with her cheque.

Mrs Harding from Cardiff, is the latest lucky winner who has won back the cost of her stairlift purchase.

Ableworld ran a competition to 'Win back the price of a new Stairlift' between September and December 2015 which meant all customers who bought a stairlift were automatically entered into a free draw.

Mrs Harding bought the stairlift to help her remain independent in her own home after her family had become concerned for her safety when using the stairs.

Mrs Harding and her son were overjoyed with the stairlift and sent a lovely letter to thank the Ableworld Cardiff staff for such prompt service.

She said: "I have never won anything in my life and at 84 years old, it had to come sooner rather than later!"

Mrs Harding and her son were so happy with the service they received that they have returned to the store to buy more items to help in her

home and have said they will most definitely be returning for all of their mobility needs in the future.

Ableworld offers customers a wide selection of quality mobility and homeware products. The store stocks a very wide range of products, including larger items such as mobility scooters, wheelchairs, adjustable beds and rise and recline chairs but also many smaller items to help with day to day tasks.

They also hold a wide range of products to help with bathing, toileting and dressing, as well as a range of continence care products. Ableworld also installs stairlifts and service scooters.

Whatever the product, the aim is to help people to lead easier, more comfortable and independent lives.

Whatever your needs, you can be assured of a range of quality products from names you can trust.

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We hold regular clinics throughout south Wales in the following locations:

Cowbridge & Western Vale Group Practice, Cowbridge; Davies & Jones optometrists, Dinas Powys and Talbot Green; and Arbutnot Opticians, Barry.

Other clinics include: Treorchy, Caerphilly, Blackwood, Pontypool, Tonypandy and Newport. Contact us on 01656 652444 or visit www.bridgend-hearing.co.uk for more information.

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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

With spring on the way, it's ALMOST TIME TO GET ON YOUR BIKE!

SPRING now seems to be on its way, flowers are blooming and the days are definitely getting longer.

It's now that most people start to think

about leaving their winter hibernation and getting out and about to enjoy the lovely Vale with its winding lanes and picturesque villages and hamlets.

So let's dust off that bike, get those perished and worn tyres changed

and replace those tired brakes and cables, and get out to enjoy our lovely countryside.

Cycle maintenance is an important part of owning any bike; keeping your bicycle well serviced will ensure you receive years of trouble-free riding.

We offer a range of services at competitive prices both mobile and workshop-based covering the Vale of Glamorgan area, helping you reduce the risk of more expensive repairs in the long run.

For further information about our cycle maintenance/repair packages please either visit our website, or give us a call to discuss your requirements.

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Bridgend Dental Surgery for a top quality service...

DENTISTS, Colin Rees and Zoe Clarke, formerly of Cowbridge are excited to announce the forthcoming opening of their new practice in Bridgend.

Easily accessible with ample parking, disabled access and the latest equipment, the Bridgend Dental Surgery will deliver top quality dentistry and cater for all dental needs.

Between them they have over 30 years of experience. Dr Clarke has a Ph.D in Medical Pharmacology and

Mr Rees is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. He has a particular interest in maxillofacial and implant dentistry.

The practice is able to offer a home domiciliary service to patients who cannot attend the surgery.

They explained: "We look forward to servicing the community and the challenges ahead and to providing a high standard of dental care. We welcome old and new patients alike and can assure all patients of the best treatment and continuity of care for their dental futures."

Announcing the forthcoming opening of...



Colin Rees Zoe Clarke
Dental Surgeons

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Sul y Mamau Hapus! Welsh cards and helium balloons...

YOU might know them for school uniforms and stationery, but did you also know that The Pencil Case in Cowbridge stocks a wide range of greetings cards, in both Welsh and English?

"Our Welsh language cards are very popular," owner Sally Stephenson told us.

"We have cards for all occasions – Mother's Day, Easter, Father's Day, ages and general birthday. They are great value for money too – our cards cost no more than £2.99."

The Pencil Case also sells helium balloons

from just £4.99, featuring Mother's Day, Easter, Star Wars, Frozen, general birthday and ages from one to 100, including huge individual numbers for just £12.99. New in this week are fabulous 'Bubble' balloons – the size of a beach ball and they last for weeks!

You can either buy balloons to take away immediately, or order in advance, and Sally and the team will have them ready for you to collect whenever is convenient for you.

The Pencil Case is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday at 50 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7AB, call 01446 772210 or email sally@thepencilcase.co.uk or www.thepencilcase.co.uk

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Everyone is welcome at Goldies Cymru!

WE are Goldies Cymru and we are putting smiles on hundreds of faces through our daytime singing and activity sessions.

These take place across south Wales, working in partnership with a number of other organisations. We try to lift people out of isolation and offer an hour of fun and laughter.

Everyone is welcome at our Goldies Cymru sessions. We are not a choir, but we do use the popular hits

of the 50s onwards at our sessions to get people singing and (quite often!) getting up to dance.

We ask everyone who attends to make a minimum £2 donation, with refreshments included. So if you enjoy singing, love listening to music and want to meet new people, come and join us! We are a warm, friendly bunch!

With the support of the Big Lottery Fund Wales and The Moondance Foundation, we will be adding more sessions across Wales.

Goldies cymru COME AND JOIN US

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Find out more / see our website
www.goldiescymru.org.uk
In Welsh & English

Vote with your feet for the Walking Festival

THE Vale's pathways are among its greatest treasures – and this year sees the seventh Vale of Glamorgan Walking Festival.

From May 19-22, Valeways (<http://www.valeways.org.uk/>) will host themed walks around exhilarating landscape. Whatever takes your fancy, there'll be a walk for you: geology, wildlife, history and heritage, melodic meanderings coordinated with the Vale Music Festival; or

another famous elbow-exercising Vale Ale Trail. Whatever the weather, from a gentle three-mile stroll to an eight-mile scramble, you can enjoy stunning scenery in good company. All welcome, just turn up! Full details from end of March: <http://www.valeofglamor.org.uk/ganfestival.org.uk/>

Vale of Glamorgan
WALKING FESTIVAL
Thursday 19th to Sunday 22nd May 2016



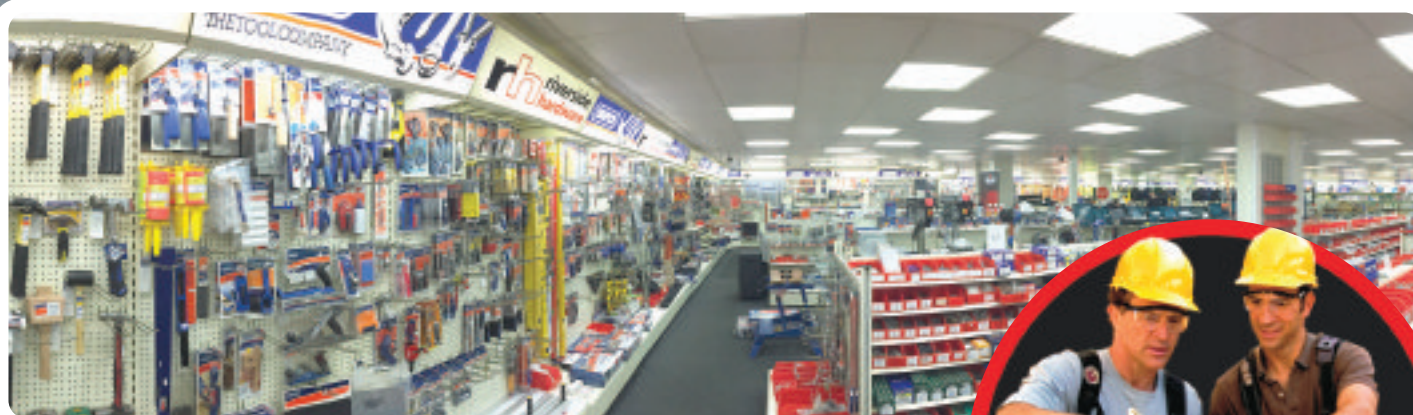
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MOTORING into Spring....

DRIVING THE MILLIONAIRE'S DREAM CAR...

THE Bentley Bentayga – pronounced with a capital A sound in the middle – is the newest, fastest and most luxurious SUV you can buy.

It's packed with exquisite detailing that lifts it above the rest of the SUV crowd, plus technology that helps it drive shockingly well.

It's more than 5.1 metres long, two metres wide, even excluding the mirrors, and weighs 2.5 tonnes with a driver on board.

Under the bonnet is an all-new 6.0-litre W12 engine that shares not a single nut, bolt or screw with its predecessor.

Two banks of six cylinders diagonally interlaced provide 600bhp and a creamy 664lb/ft of torque, courtesy of two twin-scroll turbochargers.

Looks and image
Here's the divisive

by **MATT KIMBERLEY,**
Press Association

bit. The back is a little bland and could belong to a few other brands if you squint, but small tweaks to the front since the concept stage have improved it no end.

It's colour-sensitive, though, and you'll want to pitch for one of the beautiful reds, greens or blues. Bentayga Brown is a choice you might come to regret. Either way, the lustrous paint finishes are utterly gorgeous.

There are no image worries here. It's a Bentley in every way; true to what the modern brand stands for and true to the direction the company's founder W.O. Bentley would have wanted for it. If you like the idea of a luxury SUV, there's nothing more appealing in the world.

Space and

practicality

A big boot and useful cabin storage combine to make good on the Bentayga's promise of space. The boot lip is high, but you can customise it with a practical fold-down ledge for sitting on.

Beyond that is a capacious boot, three rear seats with loads of legroom and the back half of four-zone climate control. Just be careful with the beautifully soft leather, won't you?

Behind the wheel

The 12 cylinders deliver near-instant, crushing, relentless torque that's seamlessly delivered to the road via four independently electrically-controlled wheels of up to 22 inches across. It's breathtakingly quick.

You can't completely escape 2.5 tonnes, but the Bentayga stays implausibly flat through corners thanks to a 48-volt electrical system that tweaks the ever-plush suspension while you drive.

Carrying indecent speed through corners without body roll is the big Bentley's party piece, but the rest of the package is sublime.

The multi-way adjustable seats are all-day comfy, the driving position is perfect behind the slightly-too-chunky steering wheel and the obviously Volkswagen Group-

sourced satnav interface is a dream to use.

There's even a good sense of feel and feedback at the wheel.

It's also so quiet that you'll think you've gone deaf. In traffic, you'd think it was electric, and even at 70mph and 1,500rpm in the eighth of the buttery-smooth gearbox's ratios, it's like two clouds rubbing together.

It doesn't sound as good under power as the Mulsanne and the brakes should be stronger, but otherwise, it's exceptional.

Value for money

For a starting price more than double that of the Range Rover, it depends how much you want that exclusivity, that badge and the mind-boggling attention to detail on offer here.

But £1,400 to have a craftsman pick up a different colour of thread with which to stitch the dashboard does seem a bit unreasonable – and that's just one of up to £70,000 worth of options on the press launch cars.

Price issues aside, nothing can touch its combination of qualities and a Range Rover seems a bit budget by comparison.

(CONTINUES
ON PAGE 2)6

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MB Motors are a family-run motor services business based in Pontyclun near Llantrisant.

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"Now 10 Years in business"



Tristan Greedy would like to inform all of his customers that due to business expansion they have moved from the Heritage Business Park, Wick Rd, Llantwit Major to their new premises (next door to the Post Office sorting office), Llandow, Vale Business Park - and it's business as normal.

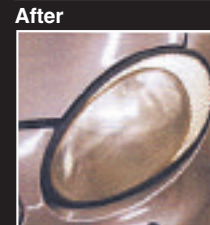
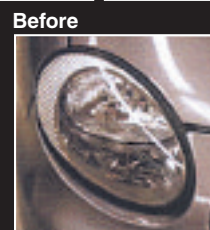
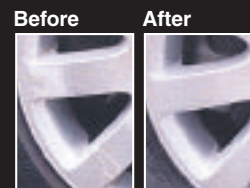
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Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia 'SR7' range: Urban 42.8 (6.6) - 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1) - 78.5 (3.6), Combined 50.4 (5.6) - 67.3 (4.2). CO2 Emissions are 99 - 130 g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Available on Kia 'SR7' range until 31 March 2016. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to mileage and condition of the vehicle. Excess mileage charge 14.9p per mile. Subject to status. T&Cs apply. 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Kia Motors Finance RHI 15R. Models shown: Kia Rio 'SR7' 3-door 1.25 84bhp 5-speed manual at £10,845 including £1,000 customer saving (Non offer price £11,845) (Based on 9,000 miles p.a.); Kia Picanto 'SR7' from £8,845.00 including £1,000 customer saving (Based on 9,000 miles p.a.); NEW Kia Cee'd 'SR7' 5-door 1.4 CRDi 89bhp 6-speed manual at £16,290 including £750 customer saving (Non offer price £17,040) (Based on 9,000 miles p.a.). Customer savings vary by model derivative. Specification is subject to change without notice. *Kia Care-3 for £99 must be activated within 30 days of vehicle registration. Care-3 is the Kia Servicing Package that covers recommended manufacturers servicing. T&Cs apply. Offer not available with any other offer. Retail sales only. Details correct at time of going to press. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For full terms and exclusions visit www.kia.co.uk. Gravells Ltd trading as Gravells Kia Kidwelly are a credit broker (not a lender) for the purposes of this financial promotion and can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made.



Motoring into Spring....



All new Kia Sportage available at Gravells Kia Bridgend

THE fourth generation Kia Sportage, which benefits from major advances in fuel efficiency, comfort, connectivity, convenience and safety, is available to purchase at Gravells Kia Bridgend.

With prices starting from £17,995, the all-new model is sure to prove as popular with its predecessors with motorists in Wales.

It comes in 18 variants and for the first time, GT-Line versions are available – adding an even sportier flourish to the range. The luxurious First Edition model, which is priced at £31,645, heads the line-up, and GT-Line models start at £24,350.

Paul Philpott, President and CEO of Kia Motors UK, said: "The car has some of the most advanced technologies available in a Kia which will appeal to our customers."

All versions of the new Kia Sportage, except the entry-level grade, include a seven or eight-inch touch screen satellite navigation system linked to Kia Connected Services with TomTom, providing full European mapping and detailed traffic, speed camera, weather and local services information – handy features for motorists driving the streets of Brixend.

Further up the range, speed limit information, lane keep assist, high

beam assist, autonomous emergency braking and blind spot detection with rear cross traffic alert are available.

As well as offering fantastic connectivity and innovative technology, the fourth generation Sportage benefits from a range of other features. Even grade 'I' models come with 16-inch alloy wheels, smart black cloth upholstery with a grey headlining, electrically adjustable door mirrors, a premium feel leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearshifter and all-round electric windows.

The new model is also up to 7mpg more economical, with CO₂ reductions of as much as 29g/m – making it more cost efficient and environmentally friendly.

Casian Wright of Gravells Kia Bridgend said: "We're delighted to have the all-new Kia Sportage on our forecourt which has received a lot of interest from day one. The Sportage's fun-to-drive qualities have been honed to an even sharper degree in the new model through a combination of a much stiffer body shell, extensive suspension revisions and a new steering system."

"As a result, it is even more precise and stable on the UK's twisty country roads and more comfortable and refined on highways and motorways, too."



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MOTORING into Spring...

REVEALED – the UK's favourite driving music!

QUEEN'S classic anthem 'Bohemian Rhapsody' has topped the charts in a survey of British drivers' favourite driving music.

The research by Goodyear was compiled ahead of the Brit Awards, revealing the legendary genre-busting track as a clear winner.

Guns 'n' Roses

by Press Association motoring reporters

came in second with 'Sweet Child O' Mine' and Led Zeppelin took third with another air guitar winner, 'Stairway To Heaven'.

But the most interesting stats were revealed by car brand, where Seat owners were the most likely to be caught listening to Bob Marley's 'No Woman No Cry', while

Hyundai drivers generally prefer Oasis and 'Live Forever'.

People in Skodas threw a curve ball with their most popular song emerging as 'Ring of Fire' by Johnny Cash. Hondas are to be found playing R'nB more often than anything else, but the single most popular song among their owners is David

Bowie's 'Life on Mars'.

Overall, rock was the most popular genre of music with 36 per cent of the vote, followed by pop on 26 and R'nB with seven per cent.

Other songs on Goodyear's Top 10 include 'Let It Be' by The Beatles, 'Every Breath You Take' by The Police, and the 2004 classic, 'Mr Brightside' by The Killers.

The firm has even turned the results into an epic road trip Spotify playlist.

"Music has the ability to make us feel good even when stuck in traffic," says Kate Rock, PR manager for Goodyear Tyres UK.

"The mix of genres in the top 10 reveals the differing tastes of the British public, but Queen still reigns on the roads when it comes to great driving tunes."

Bentley reviewed

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23
Who would buy one?

SUVs are so popular the world over, that when you think about it, it's surprising it has taken car makers like Bentley so long to build a hyper-luxury one.

The company has already raised its target of 3,600 units a year to reach adequate profitability – they'll easily shift all 5,000 they can build every 12 months. People with the means will buy the Bentayga simply because it's the best.

This car summed up in a single

word: Mighty

If this car was a hotel it would have five stars, a peerless interior and tangible heritage in its workmanship.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

Bentley Bentayga, from £160,200.

Engine: Turbocharged W12 petrol producing 600bhp and 664lb/ft

Transmission: Eight-speed automatic driving all four wheels

Performance: Top speed 187mph, 0-62mph in 4.1 seconds

Fuel Economy: 21.6mpg

Emissions: 296g/km

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Children from a local nursery dressed in national costume.

'Make St David's Day a bank holiday' – call

ON a busy St David's Day in the area, Cardiff Airport unveiled a new dragon, and the Welsh Conservatives joined those calling for Wales' national day to become a bank holiday.

The Shadow Culture Minister, Suzy Davies AM, said: "A St David's Day Bank Holiday could act as a global showcase for our nation; and provide people across the country with a unique opportunity to celebrate our identity."

"It would be a fantastic way to celebrate our national day; equally providing a significant boost to Wales' international reputation and tourist industry."

She explained that the decision was not, at present, one that Wales



Volunteers from Maries Curie.

could take independently of the UK Parliament, as it is not a devolved power.

However, Scotland already has a bank holiday for its Patron Saint, St Andrew and Northern Ireland has a bank holiday for St Patrick.

Mrs Davies said that

although Labour supported the idea, she felt that they had done "so little to press for change".

She emphasised: "A Welsh Conservative Government would fully support, endorse and press for the introduction of a St David's Day Bank Holiday."

DAFFODILS AT AIRPORT

At Cardiff Airport, the terminal was decorated with Welsh flags and daffodils, and Marie Curie volunteers from the local hospice collected on behalf of their daffodil appeal for the hospice in Penarth.

Children from the nearby 'Passport to Play' day nursery arrived – all dressed up in traditional Welsh dress (above) before enjoying a special St David's Day lunch back at the nursery.

In the arrivals hall, a brand new dragon

Name the airport's new dragon.

sculpture was unveiled. His or her name will be chosen by vote on social media using #NameOurDragon.

Debra Barber, managing director and chief operating officer at Cardiff Airport, said: "St David's Day is a very special day for us, we're very proud of our Welsh heritage so it's the perfect opportunity for us to celebrate with passengers and staff."

'Vale needs more than photo-ops'

ITRULY hope the Aston Martin deal materialises – my scepticism though is well-earned.

This announcement comes 10 weeks before the Assembly election and recent history is littered with mega-announcements that fall through or become much smaller... after an election.

In the 2011 campaign, Cardiff's LG television plant was taken over by a group promising thousands of jobs from new solar batteries. GCell today is a much smaller business.

This Government is still chasing a company who fled Wales last summer after pocketing an £11 million grant. Recently, it gave consultants CapGemini a £1.4-million grant for 33

consulting jobs per year through 2017.

How much will these Aston Martin jobs cost the taxpayer? Labour refuses to reveal any details. Sony left; Tata is leaving.

After 100,000 manufacturing jobs were lost on their watch, this Government now 'discusses' Wales' business drain?

I was part of the Miami Miracle in the 1980s. We brought three million jobs to a city region the size of Wales. Real business development requires a dedicated, focused public-private partnership v photo-ops of Welsh flags draped over sports cars.

We deserve and demand better. Denis Campbell, Lib Dem Assembly candidate for the Vale.

Aston Martin link recalled

I WAS interested to read that Aston Martin has chosen St Athan as its new base, as I spent my happy childhood living at East Lodge, Crossways.

Shortly after we moved there in 1968, Ian Pugh bought Crossways House and moved in with his wife and daughters, Lara and Louise.

Ian raced Aston Martins and moved some of his beloved cars into the coach house together with two donkeys, called Aston and Martin.

Norma Greene.

Vote, vote, for the Amelia Trust Farm!

AMELIA TRUST Farm has been selected to receive £8,000 from Tesco as a result of the plastic bag tax.

We will create a new play and educational area where children, disadvantaged young people and those with disabilities can enjoy themselves and learn more about our animals and their natural environment.

"We want to transform the barn into a space that is safe, interesting and educational and we will use the funding to buy interactive displays, educational equipment

and resources to create a covered classroom where youngsters can learn through play.

With your help, we could turn the £8,000 into £12,000 for the Amelia Trust Farm, if people shopping at Tesco vote for us in store next week!

"Tesco will be issuing voting tokens this week until March 6. The more votes we get the more we can spend on equipment for our young people and visitors!"

You can vote for the Farm at Tesco stores in the Vale.

JO WHITFIELD



MYND AM DRO I'R FRO GYDA DAI LINGUAL... I'r Bontfaen

Dydw i heb fentro mor bell â'r Bontfaen wrth 'fynd am dro' hyd yn hyn, nid oherwydd unrhyw ddiogel nac ychwaith cenfigen o drigolion "St. Albans Cymru" – sef un o'r trefi mwyaf poblogaidd i fyw ynddi yn ôl prisiau'r tai – ond o'r herwydd nad oedd gen i fawr o glem ble i ddechrau o ran trafodaeth ynglŷn â'r enw.

O ddarlenn Asterix deallaf taw carreg mawr yw Maen Hir – neu Menhir wrth gwrs [enghraifft arall i'r casgliad o eiriau sydd wedi treiddio trwyddo o'r Gymraeg i'r Saesneg – ond cyfrol arall fydd honno, gobeithio!], felly roeddwn i'n cymryd yn ganiataol tan yn ddiweddar iawn mai bont gyda cherrig mwyaf'r Fro oedd hanfod yr enw...

Fodd bynnag, wrth ymchwilio ar ran ymgyrch llwyddiannus #CaruS4C yn ddiweddar, ymwelais ag Aberdâr – tref yng Nghymru wrth gwrs nid yn ein Bro ni hyd yn oed – ond serch hynny mae eu llyfrgell yn drwch gyda llyfrau hanes lleol De Cymru; ac os ydych chi yn lwcus tu hwnt fe ddewch chi o hyd i ambell i arbenigwr yn pori drostynt hefyd i'ch hebrwng i'r gyfrol gyfredol...

Meddai C.J. Evans yn The Story of Glamorgan taw enw gwreiddiol y Bontfaen oedd "Y Dref Hir yn y Waun" – llond ceg yn ogystal â llond cwm yn fy marn i – ac yna yn datgelu taw hanfod yr enw modern yw'r hanesyn (neu chwedl!) lleol sef:

Wedi adeiladu pont o gerrig – neu feini! – dros yr afon Ddaw/an [h.y. The Thaw – na, nid 'see saw' gyda lisp ond megis yr afon yn Abergthaw] fe gaeth buwch a oedd yn cael ei herlid gan gŵn ei dal tan ei bod hi methu symud o dan y bont: sydd yn esboniad sy'n gwneud synnwyr mewn mwy nag un ystyr efallai.

Gwelwn felly fod y fersiwn Cymraeg yn deillio o fwy nag un tarddiad:

- Pont carreg neu faen
 - Pont nad sydd yn lydan – sy'n fain felly
- Yn wir, o glywed os nad gweld yr

enw, yr ail esboniad sydd i glywed i mi yn fwyaf amlwg; ac felly yw hi'n bosib bod y chwedl wedi deillio o'r ffaith nad oedd modd gyrru defaid na gwartheg dros y bont [fain] gwreiddiol? – ac felly pan gafodd pont arall ei hadeiladu efallai mai honno oedd y bont i yrru gwartheg – diolch byth does dim rhaid imi boeni (dim mw!) am yr enw yn yr iaith fain hefyd! (A chyfeiriad at siâp y geg wrth siarad Saesneg yw hynny, mae'n debyg.)

Yn rhyfedd iawn, er gymaint o wybodaeth cefais o gyfrol C.J. Evans, rhaid imi nodi ei fod ef o'r farn taw o Bontfynon y daw enw'r Bontfaen – a bod hynny rhywst hefyd yn deillio hefyd o'r stori o'r buwch druan yn cael ei chyrn yn sonnd yn y bont...?! Debyg mi ddyle'r theori hynny wedi cael yr un ffawd a'r fuch druan – sef y bu'n rhaid i'r perchennog saethu'r fuch yn farw yn y fan a'r lle. Fe welwch chi lun o'r fuch cyn iddi gwympo yn llorweddol ar arfbais y dref: Cowbridge's Colwja of Arms felly!

Os mynnwch chi astudio cynnig Evans o Bontfynon o ddifri, a oes modd credu taw 'pont yr afon' ydoedd? A bod hynny mor gyffredin – ym mhob ystyr y gair – fel bod angen enw gwell ar y dref fonhedd hon.

O ystyried y ddau enw cyfoes i'r Bontfaen, credaf efallai taw chwedlau wedi eu creu er mwyn cyfiawnhau'r ddau enw gwahanol sydd genym fan hyn, a rhaid cyfaddef bod hynny i raddau yn creu diffyrwch o gael dwy iaith a dwy ystyr hollol wahanol ar un ardal – trwch arall o ystyr, ag iddi gyfoeth ei hun.

Mae 'Dai Lingual' am geisio creu rhifyn arbennig o 'Mynd am Dro...' gogyfer ag ymweliad yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol i'r Fenni – cysylltwch felly os oes gennych chi gysylltiad gyda neu hanesyn o Sir Fynwy os gwelwch yn dda: david.wyn@dailingual.cymru

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Cwrdd 2.00yp Maes parcio Fox & Hounds, Saint y Brid

Mercher 9 Mawrth 'Crwydro' Taith Iach

Cwrdd 10.00yb Llyfrgell Y Bontfaen

Iau 17 Mawrth 'Crwydro' Taith Iach

Cwrdd 10.00yb Gorsaf Rheilffordd

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EIN COLOFNYYDD NEWYDD... Jacob Dafydd Ellis

Rydym yn gyffrous iawn i groesawu Jacob i'r tîm fel colofnydd cymen i'r dudalen hon yn y GEM.

Mae Jacob yn fachgen lleol ac yn gyn-ddisgybl Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.

Fe astudiodd Gwleidyddiaeth Gymreig a Rhyngwladol ym Mhrifysgol Aberystwyth, ac ers y cyfnod hynny mae wedi ymgymryd â nifer o rolau ychwanegol sy'n gynnwys Swyddog yr Iaith Gymraeg Undeb Myfyrwyr Prifysgol Aberystwyth, Cadeirydd Bwrdd Syr Ifanc Urdd Gobaith Cymru, Llywydd Cymdeithas Myfyrwyr Astudiaethau Celtaidd Iwerddon a Phrydain, Swyddog yr Iaith Gymraeg UCM Cymru, Llywydd Undeb Myfyrwyr Prifysgol Aberystwyth, a Chynrychiolydd Myfyrwyr y Coleg Gymraeg Cenedlaethol.

Erbyn hyn, mae Jacob wrthi'n cwblhau Gradd Meistr mewn Newyddiaduraeth ym Mhrifysgol Caerdydd.



Mae'r Gymraeg a'i diwylliant yn agos iawn at ei galon, ac mae ganddo ddiddordeb arbennig yn y celfyddydau a materion cyfoes lleol a chenedlaethol. Mae hefyd yn dyfarnu i Undeb Rygbi Cymru yn ei amser sbâr!

Edrychwn ymlaen i ddarlenn ei erthygl cyntaf bydd yn cael ei gyhoeddi yn rhifyn mis nesaf, Ebrill 7fed.

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Liam ydw i ac dwi'n gweithio i'r adran chwaraeon fel Swyddog Prosiect Chwaraeon yn Caerdydd a Bro Morgannwg.

Fy swydd yw i gydyllnu'r clybiau canlynol – Nofio, Gymnasteg, Plantos Heini, Nofio i Dechreuwyd a Gymnasteg Bach. Byddaf yn rhedeg y clybiau yma ac edrych i datblygu nhw. Byddaf hefyd yn edrych i dechrau mwy o glybiau cymunedol yn eich ardal!

Felly os oes gennych unrhyw cwestiynau, plis gofynnwch!

Fy manylion cyswllt yw: Enw: Liam Higgins
Rhif cyswllt: 07976003344; Ebost: LiamHiggins@urdd.org

Fy enw yw Mabli a dwi newydd ddechrau fel Swyddog Prosiect Chwaraeon yng Nghaerdydd a Bro Morgannwg.

Mi fydda i yn gyfrifol am glybiau Pel-Rwyd ac aml-chwaraeon lolo Morganwg yn ogystal â Clwb Athletau a Tennis-Bwrdd y Bro Morgannwg, a clwb Rygbi Bach yn Ysgol Stanwell. Mi fydda i hefyd yn edrych i drefnu gweithgareddau i'r teulu yn ystod tymor yr haf. Os oes unrhyw ddyddiadau am glybiau newydd yr ardal, os oes gennych syniadau am weithgareddau yn ystod gyliau'r Pasg, neu am fwy o fanylion am y clybiau sydd yn rhedeg ar hyn o bryd yn y Fro, plis gofynnwch!

Fy manylion cyswllt yw: Enw: Mabli Williams
Rhif cyswllt: 07500 607409; Ebost: MabliWilliams@urdd.org

PENWYTHNOS TEULU I LANGRANNOG

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Mae Menter Bro Morgannwg yn trefnu Penwythnos i'r Teulu i Wersyll yr Urdd, Llangrannog, am benwythnos llawn hwyl a chymdeithasu. Beth am ymuno â ni? Dydy hi ddim yn rhy hwyr i gofrestru! Mae'r pecyn yn cynnwys llety en-suite, brecwast,

cinio, te a swper, pob gweithgaredd yn y Gwersyll, taith gerdded i'r traeth, twmpath a band byw, helfa wyau Pasg a gwers Cymraeg i Oedolion. [Prisiau – Oedolion £128, Plant 8+ £107, 4-7 oed £77, 2-3 oed £55, dan 2 oed £15]

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ASTROLEG A'R PASG

Mae Astroleg yn dibynnu ar safle'r Haul a'r Lleuad a'r Planedau yn y ffurfaf, a'u cysylltiad â'i gilydd; ac yn rhyfedd iawn, er bod tadau'r eglwys wedi gwgu ar astroleg dros y blynyddoedd (a'i alw'n waitia y diafol), fe ben-derfynir Y Pasg - yr wyl bwysicaf yn y Calendr Cristnogol hefyd wrth ystyried safle'r Haul a'r Lleuad.

Penderfynwyd hyn yn oes y Pab Gregory – pan sefydlwyd y Calendr Gregoraidd – ac fe gafodd ei fab-wysiadu yng Nghymru a Lloegr ym 1752.

Detilir y Pasg yn y Gorllewin ar y Sul cyntaf ar ôl y Lleuad Lawr cyntaf sy'n dilyn cyhydnos y Gwanwyn (sef equinox – pan fo'r haul uwchben y cyhydedd – equator – a mae pawb trwy'r byd yn cael 12 awr o ddydd a 12 awr o nos) – sef Mawrth 21ain.

OND os yw'r Lleuad Lawr yn disgyn ar y Sul yna detilir y Pasg ar y Sul canlynol. – (rhag clasho gyda Gŵyl y Bara Croym – Passover)

Mae eglwys i'r Dwyrair yn dal i ddilyn yr hen Galend'r Julian – a mae eu Pasg nhw yn disgyn ar dyddiadau gwahanol. Weithiau 13 diwrnod yn ddiweddarach, ond ddim bob tro (gan ddiwynnu ar y Lleuad eto).

Y diwrnod cynharaf y gellir datlu Sul y Pasg yw Mawrth 22ain (a ddigwyddodd y tro diwetha yn 1818 – bydd y nesa yn 2285). A'r Sul ddiweddaraf y gellir



dathlu'r Pasg yw Ebrill 25ain (digwyddodd ddiwetha yn 1943 – mae'r nesaf yn 2038).

Ac wedi penderfynu'r Pasg – wedyn gellir penderfynu Dydd Mawrth Ynyd, Dydd Mercher Lludw, Pentecost ayb.

Mae Sulgwyn erbyn hyn yn wyl sefydlog – ond mae'r wyl grefyddol Pentecost o felly ynghlwm wrth ddyddiad y Pasg.

Yn ddi-ddorol, fe basiodd ein Llywodraeth ni i gael Pasg sefydlog ym 1928, fyddai'n syrthio bob blwyddyn ar y Sul sy'n dilyn yr ail Ddydd Sadwrn ym mis Ebrill (sef rhywbryd rhwng Ebrill 9fed ac Ebrill 15fed). Ond cyn gweithredu hyn rhaid i

Gyngor Eglwys i'r Byd gytuno; a hyd yma...? Eleni bydd yr Haul yn symud i arwydd Aries ar Fawrth 21ain am 00.48 wedi hanner nos – dechrau'r flwyddyn Astrolegol – felly Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! Mae Lleuad Lawr yn Libra ar Fawrth 23ain – felly mae'r Pasg yn dilyn ar Fawrth 27ain, a dyna pryd fydd y clociau yn symud ymlaen awr hefyd.

Mwynhewch eich wyau Pasg!

Eiry Palfrey

CYMRODORION Y BARRI

Nos Wener Mawrth 4ydd - Cinio Gwyl Ddewi yng Nghlwb Golf Castell y Gwennô / Gŵr gwadd Jon Gower.

Nos Fawrth Ebrill 19eg - Ffestri Tabernacl Sgwâr y Brenin am 7.15 Nosen yng Nghwmni Emlyn Davies, Pentrych

Rhag-hysbyseb Nos Fawrth Mai 10fed am 7.30 - Cwis Mawreddog yng Nghlwb Rygbi'r Barri. Beth am ffurfio tîm i ymuno â ni am noson o hwyl dibendraw? (Cysyllt ag - eirypalfrey@gmail.com)

GWEITHGAREDDAU TWF

Grŵp Tyllino Babi – Llyfrgell y Bontfaen, dydd Iau 10am
Amser Twf –

Llyfrgell y Bontfaen, dydd Iau 10.45am
I archebu lle ffoniwch Sioned: 07791 023363

Cowbridge under-10s impress at Richmond

FOLLOWING a period of four months, when due to the atrocious weather the boys have only managed to play a total of four games, we were delighted to be invited by our good friends at London Welsh to take part in their St. David's Day festival in Richmond.

It is a testament to the commitment of the players and their parents and demonstrates the team spirit that the coaches have created,

that 23 of the 29 players turned up before 9am in Richmond on Sunday.

The squad was split into the As and the development team and each would play four games in their pool. As it was a festival, no team would be awarded trophies.

The development team kicked off first against London Welsh's

development team. It was a very close match, and in the final play of the game, London Welsh scored to win the game by the narrowest margin, 3-2 - try scorers L. Thomas and Joe Davies.

Our second game was

against the Bank of England development team, where we ran out comfortable 5-1 winners with try scorers Charlie Berkley-Smith, Paddy Whitestone (2) and one each for L. Thomas and Joe Davies.

We were now in our stride and next up were London Welsh C team, who suffered from the injustice the boys were feeling from the final second loss of the first game against their development team.

We made sure from the outset and quickly put six tries onto the board, finally running out 7-1 winners - try scorers

Paddy, Joe Davies (2), Joe Funtek (2) and L. Thomas (2), the second of which was a result of excellent work and offloading by Joe Funtek.

Our final game was against the Ealing Development team, who started very strongly and it took us a while to get going, but get going we did and ensured that we finished the festival with a great 4-2 win - try scorers Josh Canning (3) and a fabulous solo effort from Corey Williams.

The A team had a tough match to start against our old nemesis, Ealing, who have beaten us in the London Irish tournament in each of the last three years.

Although we started slowly, our defence stood strong and we finally beat them 2-0, with both tries from Harry New.

Our second game was strangely against Bridgend Athletic, who had also been invited. As it was a 'local' derby, the boys seemed to lift their game and ran out comfortable 4-0 winners with tries from George Tuckley, James Collingridge and Harry (2).

London Welsh were next. This was the toughest game of the day, but we won 4-2 with another try for Harry and James C, and one each for Sam Sheppard and Jake Davies.

The final game was against the Bank of



Cowbridge under-10s teams.

England. The boys must have opened the bubbly early, as they turned on the style and started playing champagne rugby.

The running rugby and offloads were a delight to witness and we won the game 6-1, with Harry scoring his sixth try of the day and James C the other five with some well-timed support runs. In total across the squad, we won seven games and lost one, scoring a total of 34 tries and only conceding 10.

This is even more impressive when you realise that for some strange reason the development pathway is different between the WRU and their English counterparts and the boys

had to learn a new set of rules which they had the sum total of one week to practise before playing against teams that have used these rules all season. They are such a credit to the coaches, the club and the town.

Squad: Henry Davies, Ioan Phillips, Josh Canning, Edward Rees, Joe Davies, Sam Sheppard, George Tuckley, L. Thomas, Sam Jackson, Harry New, James Lord, Joe Funtek, Paddy Whitestone, Charlie Berkley-Smith, Will Brennan, Wil Martin, Jacob Robson, Henry Whitehouse, James Collingridge, Jake Davies, Ollie Gale, Ben Stephenson, Corey Williams.

AL

Tom's winner

TOM DAVID, of Llanharan, riding **Itchymel'mScratch**, won the restricted open race at the Mid-Devon Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Blackforest Lodge on Sunday, coming home eight lengths ahead of Creative Inertia.

Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft, riding David Brace's Bob The Builder, had to settle for second place in the Intermediate race being beaten by half-a-length by Commanche Conflict.

Welsh champion rider John Mathias also failed to ride a winner but was placed in three of the other races during the day.

This Saturday a number of Welsh horses and riders will be in action at the Duke of Beaufort fixture at Didmarton and the following day at the Ross Harriers meeting at Garnons.

BRIAN LEE

Follow The GEM's dedicated sports Twitter page: @sport_gem

Depleted under-12s work for victory...

A depleted Llantwit Major under-12s side travelled to Kenfig Hill last Sunday due to other sports commitments and illness throughout the team.

Playing 13-a-side it was going to be a very tough morning for the Llantwit players, with no substitutes to call upon.

With the situation certainly not in our favour, the Llantwit boys started with guts and determination.

Having defended on their 22 metre line for what felt like eternity Thomas Evans took the ball from the scrum and made good ground and we were off and running.

Superb team play allowed Lewis Ingram to cross the line in the corner for Llantwit's first try. Kenfig Hill responded well with their forwards and levelled the score just before half-time.

The second half saw Llantwit score a well-worked try which started well within their half: a strong box kick from Sean Pinch bounced kindly for Llantwit's fly half who was able to cross the whitewash again. Dylan Thomas added the extras with a great conversion at a difficult angle.

A third try gave Llantwit a good margin and even though Kenfig Hill scored right on the whistle it wasn't enough to stop the Llantwit boys gaining a hard fought and well-deserved victory, final score 17-10 - a fantastic display of teamwork and an outstanding win for the 13 tired Llantwit players.

Team: Lewis Morgan (c), Tyler Lavery, Lewis Ingram, Dylan Thomas, Aaron Cutting, Nathan Cutting, Marcus Fowler, Daniel Farrel, Sean Pinch, Ioan Cain, Ethan Liscombe, Thomas Evans and James Barlow. SG

New homes at Cwrt Col-Huw, Llantwit Major



homes4u
HOTLINE
01446 709840

Newydd Housing Association, together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Cwrt Col-Huw, Llantwit Major is now nearing completion.

The development will consist of eighteen properties.

- Two, one-bedroom fully wheelchair accessible ground floor flats
Rent £83.83 plus service charge
Priority given to applicants requiring a wheelchair accessible property.
- One, one-bedroom ground floor flat with level access shower
Rent £83.83 plus service charge
Priority given to applicants with a medical need.
- Two, one-bedroom flats
Rent £83.83 plus service charge
- Three, two-bedroom ground floor flats with level access shower
Rent £90.11 plus service charge
- Ten, two-bedroom flats
Rent £90.11 plus service charge

An invitation to bid on these properties is now open to Homes4U members with a local connection to Llantwit Major (local work, family or life connections).

A local lettings policy applies to this scheme.

There are a limited number of parking spaces at this scheme, which will be prioritised for frequent and dependable car users. A parking permit system will be in place.

Newydd Housing Association is committed to providing a safe and sustainable environment and will be asking for references and carrying out interviews with prospective tenants to achieve the full potential for this development.

Contact the Homes4U hotline on 01446 709840.

newydd

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANWU

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 3 March 2016



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at **HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
 Visible Services and Housing
 Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
 121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

Vale of Glamorgan Council Hafod Housing Association Newydd Housing Association United Welsh Wales and West Housing Association

CAE STUMPIE, COWBRIDGE



H4U Reference 229929
Suit. for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets
 • One-bedroom flat
 • First floor
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Community alarm
Rent £92.45 per week inc water and alarm charges

CARADOC AVENUE, BARRY



H4U Reference 204072
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
 • Three-bedroom house
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Gardens
Rent £106.78 per week including water charge

COPPERFIELD COURT, BARRY



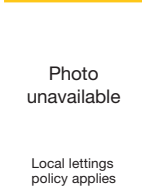
H4U Reference 1023230
Suit for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement – no pets
 • One-bed second floor flat
 • Gas central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Communal door/parking
Rent £85.43 per week including service charges

CULVERHOUSE CROSS, WENVOE X 2



H4U Reference 125721
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
 • 2 x two-bedroom houses
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Gardens
Rent £91.78 per week
 Service charge not confirmed

CWRT DOCHDWWY, LLANDOUGH



H4U Reference 125329
Suit. for a single person or couple with medical priority
 • One-bed ground floor flat
 • Wet room
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
Rent £75.58 per week
 Service charge not confirmed

FAIROAKS, DINAS POWYS



H4U Reference 231001
Suit. for a single person or couple over 60 – no pets
 • One-bedroom flat
 • First floor
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Warden and alarm
Rent £110.39 pw inc warden and water charges

HATHAWAY PLACE, BARRY



H4U Reference 211623
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
 • Three-bedroom house
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Gardens
Rent £111.46 per week including water charge

LENNOX GREEN, BARRY



H4U Reference 251544
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55
 • One-bedroom flat
 • First floor
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Community alarm
Rent £93.72 pw inc warden and water charges

PROCTOR CLOSE, BARRY



H4U Reference 221824
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 with a medical priority
 • One-bedroom bungalow
 • Central heating
 • Double-glazing
 • Community alarm & warden
Rent £106.54 per week inc water and alarm charges

LOW COST HOME OWNERSHIP – CHANNEL HEIGHTS

Three brand new homes marketed under the Aspire2Own banner by Newydd Housing Association.

Three, three-bedroom houses for sale at £126,000.
 (70% of market value – £180,000)

- To qualify you will need to be a first time buyer and have a local connection with Rhosue.
- You will also need to register on Aspire2Own and complete the application form on the Council's website.

For more information contact telephone 01446 709237 or housingstrategy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Closing date for applications 4th April 2016.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

BURDONS CLOSE, WENVOE

Wales & West Housing Association with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Burdons Close.



Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4u members with a local connection to Wenvoe as the local lettings policy applies.

- Two, three-bedroom houses
Rent £113.36 per week
- Two, one-bedroom flats
Rent £83.92 per week

Wales and West Housing Association is committed to providing a safe and sustainable environment and will be asking for references and carrying out interviews with prospective tenants to achieve the full potential for these new developments.

ARDWYN WALK, DINAS POWYS

Hafod Housing Association together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announce the development of four properties at Ardwyn Walk.



Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4u with a local connection to Dinas as the local lettings policy applies.

- Two, two-bedroom houses
Rent 96.87 per week plus service charge
- Two, one-bedroom flats – ground and first floors
Rent £78.88 per week plus service charge

WELSH HOUSING PARTNERSHIP (WHP) PROPERTIES FOR RENT

Seven properties will be available under the Welsh Housing Partnership Scheme.

The Welsh Housing Partnership is aimed at providing good quality, rented housing for people in housing need who cannot access the property market.

Pyke Street, Barry

- Two, one-bedroom ground floor flats
- One, one-bedroom second floor flat
Rent £97.81 per week
 Plus one month's rent £425 and bond £425 in advance
- One, two-bedroom ground floor flat
- Two, two-bedroom first floor flats
Rent £115.07 per week
 Plus one month's rent £500 and bond £500 in advance



Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available immediately
valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.



47 Arthur Street, Barry

- Two bedroom house
Rent £119.94 per week
 Plus one month's rent £521.17 and bond of £521.17 in advance

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference. All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness. Newydd is a charitable housing association.



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Sales

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NEW



- Large detached residence
- 4 bedrooms
- 3 receptions
- 1 acre

£535,000

NEW BUNGALOW, ST NICHOLAS

SOLD



- Standing in 1.07 acres
- 4 bedrooms
- 3 bathrooms
- Sought-after village

£735,000

CAPEL CARIAD, COLWINSTON

NEW



- Converted Chapel
- 4 bed detached
- 3 reception rooms
- Backing onto farmland

£525,000

THE SYCAMORES, LLYSWORNEY

NEW



- 4 bed detached cottage
- 3 reception rooms
- Large gardens
- Detached garage

£500,000

MAES Y BRYN, COLWINSTON

SOLD



- Semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- In need of total modernisation

£210,000

PENYLAN COURT, ST BRIDES MAJOR

NEW



- 4 bed detached property
- 3 reception rooms
- Detached garage
- Rear garden with open views

£400,000

CLOS FFAWYDDEN, YSTRADOWEN



- 4 bedrooms
- 3 Reception rooms
- Detached double garage
- Large rear garden

£410,000

CEFN CRIBWR, BRIDGEND

SOLD



- Detached character cottage
- 3 double bedrooms
- 4 acres of pasture land
- Stable block

£499,500

IVY COTTAGE, GILESTON

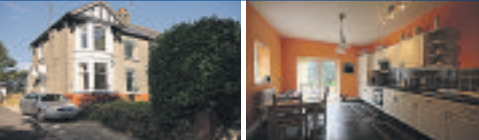
NEW PRICE



- Detached traditional cottage
- 2 double bedrooms
- Views across to Devon Coastline
- Garage and ample parking

£265,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND



- Traditional semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- Extended and improved
- Well regarded location

£215,000

WANTED

Property for waiting buyers in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major & Boverton

MALLORY, LLANMAES



- Spacious detached house
- 4 bedrooms with potential to create a 5th
- Bathroom plus 2 showers
- Conservatory

£415,000

LLANGAIN, CARMARTHEN



- 34 acres agricultural land
- Useful farm buildings
- Equestrian potential
- Caravan for residential purposes

£250,000

LAND AT WATERTON LANE



- Development land
- Extending to c.1.1 acres

£500,000

COWBRIDGE ROAD, TILLYGARN



- 115.5 acres in total
- Ring fenced

£775,000

CAERGYMRUG FARM, GARTH



- Farmhouse with 10.6 acres
- Planning consent
- Equestrian potential

£189,000

LOCATION



Caerphilly

LOCATION



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LOCATION



Cowbridge

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 Contemporary bathroom & ensuite
 Cosy lounge with open plan kitchen
 Use of on site Gym & Laundry
 No onward chain

£125,000



Cliffwood View Barry
 Garden Suburbs Location
 Sunny garden, detached garage & drive
 Semi detached house
 Four bedrooms
 Conservatory & cloakroom
 Living/dining room
 Kitchen & utility room
 No chain

£290,000



Michaelston Close Barry
 Mid terrace house
 Three good sized bedrooms
 Front & rear gardens
 No onward chain
 Suprb FTB/Investment
 Great transport links

£105,000



Heol Broadlands Barry
 Top Floor Apartment
 Two Bedrooms
 2X Allocated Parking Spaces
 No onward chain
 Waterfront Location
 Chain Free or Sitting Tenant

£100,000



College Fields Close Barry
 One Bedroom
 Loft Space
 Parking
 Easy access to link roads and M4
 Juliet Balcony

£99,950



Aeron Close Barry
 Mid terrace house
 Cul-de-sac location
 Three bedrooms
 Living room
 Kitchen/diner
 Cloakroom
 Rear garden

£112,000



Cwrt Edward Barry
 Waterfront location
 Mid terrace house with parking
 Two bedrooms
 Sizeable lounge/diner
 Conservatory
 Garden with sunny aspect
 No chain

£140,000



Llwyn Y Gog Barry
 Situated at Rhooose Point
 Mid terrace house
 Two double bedrooms
 Living/dining room
 South facing rear garden
 Parking space
 NO CHAIN

£135,000



Castle Rd Barry
 Ground floor maisonette
 Two double bedrooms
 Lounge with open plan kitchen
 Utility & conservatory
 Gardens and drive
 Great BTL - 5 - 6% Yield
 No chain

£130,000



Porthkerry Rd Barry offers in the region of £145,000
 Sought after location
 Bay fronted house
 Three bedrooms
 25 foot living room
 Kitchen/breakfast room
 Landscaped rear garden
 No onward chain



Colcot Rd Barry
 Semi-Detached
 Four Bedrooms
 Off Road Parking
 25' Lounge
 Workshop

£210,000



Well Walk Barry
 Semi Detached Family Home
 Three Bedrooms
 Two Reception Rooms
 Cul De Sac Location
 VIEWING ESSENTIAL

£315,000



Aful Sur Barry
 Sought after location
 Detached family home
 Three double bedrooms
 Three receptions
 Refitted kitchen
 Bathroom & en suite
 Landscaped rear garden
 Driveway to front

£275,000



Fontygary Rd Rhooose offers in excess of £310,000
 Beautifully presented dormer bungalow
 Superb landscaped rear gardens
 Three double bedrooms
 Three receptions
 Bathroom & shower room
 22 foot kitchen/dining room
 Driveway and garage

£310,000



Westward Rise Barry
 Sought after location
 Detached property
 Four bedrooms
 En-suite shower room
 Lounge
 Kitchen/diner
 Garage
 Cul-de-sac location
 Sea views

£300,000



Hardy Close Barry
 Detached House
 Two Double Bedrooms
 Garden & Garage
 Shower Room
 Living/Dining Room

£145,000



Heol Y Gaer Barry
 Sold with share of Freehold
 Sought after location
 Ground floor maisonette
 Two double bedrooms
 Lounge/diner & modern kitchen
 Well maintained communal gardens
 No onward chain

£169,950



Y Rhodfa, Glan Y Mor Barry
 Waterside development
 Rarely available
 First floor apartment
 Balcony overlooking water
 Living room/kitchen
 Double bedroom
 Bathroom

£117,500

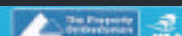
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Bellway

Last-minute score puts Pencoed out of the Plate



ABOVE: Ricky Somers crosses the try line and
BELOW: Rhys Clarke tries to break through the Cwmlynnfell defence.
ALL PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK.



HAVING led 10-0 early in the match and 22-13 at the interval, Pencoed, who led for most of this match and shared the try count, conceded a try in the closing minutes to exit the Swalec Plate in a disappointing manner against Cwmlynnfell.

First half tries for Pencoed came from full back Tom Cross, second row Ricky Somers, and scrum half Kyle Barrett. Adam Williams adding two conversions and a penalty goal.

Tries for the visitors in the opening half came from right wing Rhodri Lewis, and flanker Matthew Styman, with full back Sam Evans kicking a penalty goal.

Cwmlynnfell opened the second half with a try from centre Matthew Lemon, converted by Evans, who then gave his side the lead for the first time in the match at 22-23 with a superb 50 metre penalty goal.

Williams and Evans then swapped penalty goals before Barrett got his second try of the

match and Pencoed led 30-26 going into the final minutes. Visitors' full back Evans, who was to prove the difference between the sides with a match contribution of 18 points, got the match winning try, a solo effort which he converted from wide out to put his side into the fourth round.

Pencoed will reflect on a match which could have been won, but now need to turn their attentions to continued existence in Division 1 West Central, the necessary application from all squad members paramount.

On Saturday a supporters coach will travel to Bonymaen for a 2.30pm kick off.

PENCOED YOUTH 19, BONYMAEN YOUTH 12

This Ospreys OA League match was hard fought throughout, the home coaches especially pleased with the win with their resources a little stretched.

Pencoed tries came from Dewi Casley, skipper Liam Parrish, and Calum Palmer, Jacob Lloyd adding two fine conversions.

In a good all-round team performance flanker Jac Thompson did well at the breakdown with a number of turnovers, with Palmer doing well behind the scrum.

On Saturday Pencoed youth host Nantyllyfyllon in the Ospreys league, 2.30pm kick off.

Seven of the Pencoed squad have been chosen in the district youth squad, namely Chris Cooper, Sam Rowland Jones, Calum Palmer, brothers Dewi and Liam Parrish, Zac Taylor and Dan Watkins, the club delighted with this recognition at local youth level.

TR

Ath move up in league with win

BRIDGEND

Athletic won a seasonal double by 24-20 over Tata Steel to move up to eighth spot in the table and 12 points above the relegation places.

They overcame adversity on the day of the game with centre Ryan Owen and outside half Lewis Evans dropping out of the match day squad.

Scrum half Aled Thomas filled the centre berth with a reshuffle seeing full back Scott Govan moving to the pivot spot and wing Dan Howells moving to fullback, Liam Phillips making his first start on the wing.

The Athletic playing into a breeze started brightly. Although the Tata pack were physically considerably heavier and taller than the Athletic 8 it was the Athletic scrum that was dominant.

The front row of Wayne Fooks, Nathan Holman and Matt Muir gave their opposite numbers a torrid time. This was highlighted in the 16th minute when the referee lost patience with the Tata front row continually collapsing the scrum on their five metre line and awarded the Athletic a penalty try.

Scott Govan converted to give the Athletic a 7-0 lead. Within two minutes

fullback Bird kicked a penalty to reduce the deficit to 7-3. Despite the Athletic's territorial dominance a second Bird penalty made it 7-6.

Tata then quickly moved a tap penalty on halfway and a succession of handling moves saw Bird cross in the corner. His conversion gave the home side a 13-7 half-time advantage.

The Athletic with the breeze at their backs weathered an early second half offensive with Tata trying to stretch the game wide.

Flanker Ben Howe won a turnover just inside the Tata half. Scrum half Jake Williams released the backs, Govan brought centres Shaun Wilcox and Aled Thomas into play.

Thomas dummed to pass to wing Craig Lewis and stepped inside his marker to cross under the posts and Govan's conversion put the Athletic 14-13 ahead. He then stretched the lead to 17-13 with a well struck 40 metre penalty goal.

The Athletic pack were continuing to dominate with locks Tom Penry-Ellis and Griff Davies strong ball carriers.

No 8 Stuart Edbrook, who returned to the Athletic this season from Tata, was a constant thorn in the side of his former team

mates, making constant forages over the gain line which earned him a man of the match award.

The culmination of this dominance astonishingly saw the lightweight Athletic pack drive the juggernaut Tata pack 30 metres backwards with a driving maul to create a try for prop Wayne Fooks. Govan stretched the lead to 24-13 with the conversion.

The Athletic were now looking for a bonus point try. Captain Sean Williams went close and wing Craig Lewis, having his best Athletic game, also looked dangerous.

However it was Tata who had the final word with a late try from wing Kristian Jenkins, converted by Bird, to make the final score a more respectable 24-20 loss and a losing bonus point for Tata Steel.

Athletic team manager Paul Hearn summed up: "It was a well deserved win from a game dominated by the Athletic pack and gives the team confidence going forward to their next few games."

The Athletic will be looking for a third successive league victory when they entertain Narbeth this Saturday, March 5, at Newbridge Fields.

AB

Good win for Sports under-10s

IT was Pontyclun under-10s' turn to visit Newbridge Fields on Sunday for the return fixture with Bridgend Sports.

Both teams contributed to a highly entertaining game, as some winter sun eventually found its way through what has felt like the monsoon season for many, with all mini and junior teams struggling to play.

Given the number of lost games to date, both sides wanted to use the opportunity to find some game time for all players and therefore decided to play four 10 minute periods.

In the opening period it was the Sports who set the pace for the morning. Pontyclun started the game but were quickly put under pressure which saw the ball turned over to the home team, as their defence quickly closed play down forcing Pontyclun into surrendering possession.

They ran the quick possession at every opportunity, combining good handling, support and offloading skills to produce five unanswered tries in the first period. Whenever Pontyclun restarted, they did not have an answer to the dynamic defence of Bridgend Sports with Harri Williams, Dewi Worrall, Callum Lewis, Tom Coles and Thomas Chick featuring heavily in the tackle count.

Three of the tries in this first period were scored by Callum Lewis. For his first, he intercepted a pass from the halfway line, while his second and third tries were a result of a team effort.

For his second, the ball was secured through a good counter ruck, Tom Chick saw the space and used his pace to make ground and from five metres out; he unselfishly passed to Callum Lewis for an easy run in.

For his third, Lestyn John set off on a run, broke through the gain line and then linked with the ever

present Harri Williams who put Callum Lewis into the gap for the try.

Harri Williams had scored the second try of the morning. This followed a similar all-round team effort. From a scrum, Callum Lewis sold a dummy with a show and go to make ground before passing to Harri Williams and onto Tom Chick to set up a ruck.

Dewi Worrall then charged through before passing to Mackenzie Dent who put Joel Rogers into space; he sliced through the cover before passing to Harri Williams who made no mistake with the touch down.

Joel Rogers scored the final try of the period for the Sports; Tyler Burton started it off with a charge, he passed onto Mackenzie Dent and then onto Joel Rogers who showed the remaining defence a clean pair of heels to race in for the try.

Pontyclun rallied in the second and third 10 minute periods as they fought out a 0-0 draw in the first; the period may have been try-less but the Badgers lifted their game to provide some entertaining rugby by moving the ball at pace and recycling the ball quickly.

The home team failed to reach their high standard of the opening period but managed to keep their defence intact for the period to end all square at 0-0.

Owen Parker scored an early try in the third period for Pontyclun after the ball was first worked left and then back to the right of the field for him to find space down the right touchline to race in for the score.

Sports responded with a second try for Harri Williams. They were awarded a penalty for a high tackle five metres out, following some strong runs from Mackenzie Dent and Mason Balmer.

A quick tap and pass put Harri Williams into the space and he made no mistake. Dylan Godfrey scored a second for Pontyclun from a flowing move only for the

Sports' Tom Chick to score, as he used his pace with a touchline run from the halfway line.

Having experienced a strong Badgers comeback, the Bridgend Sports players finally realised they had to regain the form they showed in the first half.

They responded superbly with Joel Rogers proving to be the catalyst in attack and Lestyn John in defence as he ploughed into tackle after tackle. Joel Rogers ran in a hat-trick of tries within minutes of the restart, mesmerising opponents with pace and guile.

Dylan Godfrey scored for Pontyclun next before the Sports added a further four tries. They rediscovered their appetite for moving the ball, and Morgan Edwards earned the loudest cheer of the morning when he sprinted down the left touchline to score.

Joel Rogers added the next, then a barnstorming powerful run by Mackenzie Dent from the halfway line secured the next score before Dewi Worrall claimed a deserved and final try of the afternoon for the Sports to run out victors by 14 tries to three.

Both teams contributed to an excellent morning of rugby and the Sports can be very pleased not only with a double over the visitors, but because a number of less-experienced players are making valuable contributions.

This week the Sports are home to Treorchy in what will be a tough fixture and all will be hoping that the monsoon season has finally ended.

Squad: Cadan Hayes, Callum Lewis, Dewi Worrall, Harri Williams, Lestyn John, Joel Rogers, Lowri Long, Mackenzie Dent, Mason Balmer, Matthew Gates, Morgan Edwards, Thomas Chick, Thomas Coles and Tyler Burton.

SP

Honours even for Penybont under-18s

PENYBONT'S first away game of 2016 took them to Corntown to face a resilient Cowbridge side that proved to be a stern test for the in-form Penybont.

This was Penybont's first game on grass for 10 weeks and it took them a while to adjust to playing on a surface that can't be compared to the luxury of a 3G pitch.

Cowbridge made a lively start to the game

and took a somewhat unexpected lead in the 10th minute of the game.

Cowbridge pounced on a loose pass by the Penybont defence after one of their players showed good composure to slot the ball past the Penybont goalkeeper Calum Williams.

Penybont now started to get back into the game and looked a real threat from a string of corners.

The momentum was now with Penybont and right midfielder Morgan Ley got fouled in the penalty area which left the referee with no option other than to point to the penalty spot.

Arran Williams then stepped up but the Cowbridge goalkeeper made a decent save with a dive to his right.

Ten minutes before half-time Penybont got a crucial equaliser. A superbly flighted corner from Jac Lewis was met convincingly by the head of Arran Williams, who redeemed himself from his earlier penalty miss.

Penybont picked up from where they left off in the first half and took the lead in the 49th minute.

Matthew Symons made the most of a good run down the right and crossed the ball across

the face of the goal to find his strike partner Jac Lewis, who fired the ball home.

The match was now going in Penybont's direction and in the 55th minute a Cowbridge player was sent off for a dangerous challenge on Connor James.

But just seven minutes later, the referee awarded his second penalty of the match, this time in favour of Cowbridge.

The Cowbridge player ruthlessly converted the penalty to the right hand side of the goal.

With the scores now level, 10 men Cowbridge defended in numbers for over 30 minutes and big credit must go to their goalkeeper who made numerous key saves to prevent Penybont from winning their 10th game on the bounce.

Overall, Penybont did not perform to their maximum ability but came across a committed Cowbridge side that did not give up, even with 10 men.

On reflection a draw was probably a fair result but Penybont can still take the positive of now being unbeaten in 10 games.

TOM PROSSER

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THE results for recent events are:

Wednesday, February 24: 1st John Beard and Liam Sheridan, 2nd Mike Best and David Birt, 3rd David Newman and John Whateley. Winners on handicap John Beard and Liam Sheridan.

Thursday, February 25: 1st Christine Miller and Stuart Davies, 2nd Mari Jones and Ann Fox, 3rd Frances Heslin and Dee Finch. Winners on handicap Frances Heslin and Dee Finch.

Friday, February 26: 1st Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, 2nd John Evans and Steve Burgoyne, 3rd Dave

Reed and Jim Hume. Winners on handicap Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall.

Play is scheduled to commence at 7pm so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle duplicate session.

Master points are now awarded but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

TG

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2016/00173/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed family room and kitchen extension
Location:/Lleoliad: Llanvithyn House, Llanrcarfan
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2016/00113/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of retail unit, alterations to the elevations of an existing retail unit, car park reconfiguration, landscaping and associated works.
Location:/Lleoliad: Waterfront Retail Park, Heol Ceiniog, Barry

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2016/00128/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Variation of conditions 4, 8, 9 and 10 of application 2015/00422/FUL to modify pre-commencement conditions to allow phasing of development, to allow placement of accommodation on site
Location:/Lleoliad: Springfield Nursery, Sutton Road, Llandow

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2016/00030/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: An agricultural building for the housing of cattle
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at The Lawns, Cwrt yr Ala, Michaelston le Pit

Application(s) with Environmental Statement/ Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land south of Cog Road, Sully.
FURTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED - ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY WORK

I give notice that Taylor Wimpey plc is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Residential development with associated access and associated works (max 350 dwellings).

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement at a charge from Savills, 12 Plas Windsor, Cardiff. CF10 3BY so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 24 March, 2016. Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 24 March 2016 quoting reference 2013/01279/OUT.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

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- datganiad amgylcheddol;
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yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 24 March, 2016.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 24 March 2016 an ddylfynnu'r cyfeiriad 2013/01279/OUT.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 3 March, 2016

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager, Regeneration and Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

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Western Mail	20,007	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	16,060	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

Family Notices

WILLIAMS Violet Theresa (Vi) (née Jones)

Suddenly but peacefully after a short illness at Llandough Hospital, Penarth on February 20, Vi of Churchill Terrace, Barry. Dearly beloved wife of Keith, much loved mum of Cheryl, Julie and Steven, cherished mother-in-law of Michael, Junior and Jan, adored nan to all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Vi will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynwydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service in the chapel on Tuesday, March 8 at 11am, followed by cremation at the Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 12 noon. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu of flowers to Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation.

PASCOE Colin

Peacefully on February 27th, Colin, aged 85 years, of Rhose, a well known Church organist.

He will be greatly missed by his loving family and friends. Funeral service in St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major on Friday, March 11th at 10am, followed by family only please to Holy Trinity Churchyard, Marcross.

Family flowers only please, all enquiries to W.A. Brown & Son, Pembroke House, Llantwit Major 01446 792489.

HOPKINS Geoff

Peacefully in hospital, on 26 February 2016, aged 85 years of Castle Close, Boverton.

Funeral service to take place at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend on Friday, 11 March at 10am.

Sadly missed by his loving family.

Acknowledgements

LEMMER Roy

Hilary, Matt and Becca would like to say a big thank you to all the many friends who came to Roy's memorial service at St Donats Church, Llantwit Major on Thursday, February 18, for the lovely cards and flowers sent and the support received.

To Father Anthony who conducted a beautiful service at the crematorium and the church.

Thank you.

HARRIS Colin Desmond

Peacefully passed away on 11 February, aged 76. Lilian wishes to thank all the staff of Holme Towers, Penarth and Llandough Hospital for the excellent care provided to Colin.

A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Peros and Mrs Pat Werprecht for their help.

From a mother and family, God Bless you all.

NEIL FRY

Julie, Rory, Jo, Dave, George and Violet extend heartfelt thanks to neighbours, family and friends for their love and support at this sad time.

Thanks to Liz and Allan at Marie Curie, district nurses, Porthcerry surgery, Green Willows for helping us to honour Neil's wishes, Cath for the beautiful poem and Barry West End Club.

The family would like to thank everyone for their donations in Neil's memory. Neil's light shines on.

MULCOCK Joseph Henley

Joe Mulcock, 82, passed away peacefully on February 23rd at University Hospital Llandough following a short illness. Beloved husband of Beryl, father of Nick, grampy of Hunter.

Joe was a source of great love, humour and support for his entire extended family during his long, happy life and will be deeply missed.

Funeral to be held at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 11th March at 11am.

No flowers by request. Memorial donations may be made in Joe's name to Grassrootscardiff.com.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 01446 407962.

GREEN

James "Jim" Vincent

Passed away peacefully after a short illness on Sunday, 21 February 2016. Dear brother to Derek and brother-in-law to Janet. Brother to the late John and son to the late Ellen and Clement. Dearly missed by nephews and nieces, friends and neighbours.

Funeral service will take place at Coychurch Crematorium Coychurch, Bridgend, CF35 6AB on Tuesday, 8 March 2016 at 11.30am.

No flowers. Donations in lieu of flowers to Cancer Research UK c/o Penybont Funeral Services.

THOMAS

Phyllis Eileen (Née Broughton)

Sadly, on February 21st, Phyllis, much loved mum of Joy, Meryl, Cheryl and Lynnette; mother-in-law of James, Conway, William and Brian; adored nanna of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Phyllis will be greatly missed by all her family and many friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon until the funeral service on Thursday, March 10th at Bethel Baptist Church, Llantwit Major at 1.15pm, followed by interment at Porthkerry cemetery. Family flowers only may be sent to the funeral home, donations in lieu, if desired, may be sent to The Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ. Please could you honour Phyllis' wishes and not wear black to her funeral - wear something bright to celebrate my life - not black for mourning.

HERBERT Marjorie Kate

Peacefully on February 28 at her home surrounded by her family, Marj, aged 90 years of Llantwit Major. Adored wife of the late Dougy, very much loved mum of Marilyn and Ken. Dear mother-in-law to the late Geoff. Loved so much by her grandson Will, his wife Sammie and great grandchildren Bethan and Jamie.

Funeral service in St Illtud's Church on Monday, March 14 at 10.45am, afterwards to Coychurch Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations for the Alzheimer's Society (cheques only) and all enquiries to W.A. Brown & Son. 01446 792489.

In Memory

A year has gone... MILLER Rhodri Dafydd

11th October 1997 - 6th March 2015

'Every day life passes, and now it's been a year. We often call your name, and always shed a tear. People say that life gets easier, the pain does go away. But we just find that missing you, gets stronger every day. Our lives have not been the same, since the day you went away. And now we wait for our time, until the day we can see your smile again. Loving you always - Calon Lân. Our precious and special son.



A year has passed... Alesha · Rhodri · Corey YOU NEVER SAID GOODBYE

You never said I'm leaving, you never said goodbye. You were gone before I knew it, and only God knew why.

A million times I needed you, a million times I cried. If love alone could have saved you, you never would have died.



In life I loved you dearly, in death I love you still. In my heart you hold a place, that no one could ever fill. It broke my heart to lose you, but you didn't go alone. For part of me went with you, the day God took you home.

Rhodri Dafydd Miller 'HEY BROTHER'

Our paths may change as life goes on, but the bond we have remains ever strong. A year has gone past, it's been way too fast, the pain is so bad, it makes me feel so sad.

I miss you big brother and think of you every day. Keep watching over me and keep me safe each day. Until we meet again, love you always, your baby bro.



lestyn xxx

TROTT Heather

14 years on
March 6, 2016.

You are always with me.

We miss you so much.

John & Family
xxx

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MONTGOMERY Clement (Stan)

Peacefully after a short illness on Thursday, 25th February 2016, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend; Stan of Cwrt-y-Felin, Wick, Bridgend. Beloved husband of the late Shirley, dearly loved father of Janet, a treasured grandfather of Samantha and Robert and loyal friend of Hywel. Funeral on Friday, 4th March. Service and interment at St. James Church, Wick at 11.30am.

(Family request that everyone wears some red) Family flowers only with donations in lieu if desired to either Cancer Research UK or Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend, CF31 1HE. Tel 01656 650831.

MILES Marie Frances

Passed away peacefully on 25th February 2016. Much loved widow of Alan Miles, mother of Colin (and Janet), Sue (and Mark) and John (and Amber), grandmother of Hannah, Reuben, Lauren and Luke.

Funeral service to be held at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, 9th March 2016 at 1.15pm.

No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, may be made to parkinsons.org.uk or redcross.org.uk.

All enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel (029) 2051 4627.

EVANS Iris Marion

Peacefully on February 26th at Barry Community Hospital - Iris, aged 95 years, and a former teacher at Holton Road Primary School and St Athan Camp School. Loving mum to David, Alan and their families.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, 8th March at 1pm. Floral tributes may be sent to the Funeral Home. Further enquiries to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

Birthdays

Congratulations RUTH HAYNES on your

102nd
Birthday
on 3rd March

Best wishes from all
at the RVS Rhose Darby
& Joan Club

Happy 10th Birthday

FLYNN on 3rd
March



Enjoy your special day!

*Lots of love from
Mum, Barry,
Nanna, Bamps,
Karen & David xxx*

Birthdays

★ REBECCA TAYLOR (DUNCAN) ★

Happy 30th
Birthday

on 4 March

*Lots of love
Mum, Dad, Gemma,
Jordan, Josh & Jack xxx*



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Grandeur of Penarth is captured in volume of photographs from the past – and present

Glebe Street around 1913.



Beachcliff.



by GEM REPORTER

GRANDEUR is not an adjective that you might associate with Penarth, but **Penarth History Tour**, a book by David Ings, makes a convincing case.

For a Penarthian, or perhaps someone who has developed a strong affection for the area, this volume of photographs past and present, is a quick guide to the town's development.

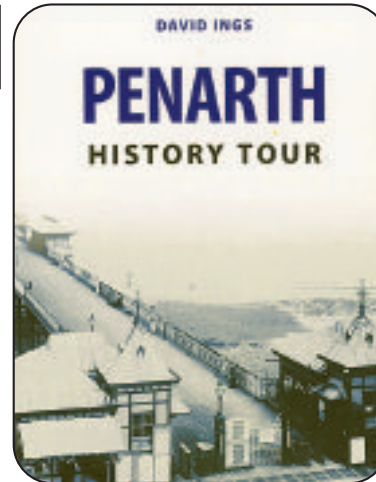
The book covers the all major locations in the town.

Mr Ings, who lived in Penarth for the first 25 years of his life and has moved the short distance to live in Cardiff, often includes a page with a 'then' and 'now' image – and there are helpful explanatory comments.

Mr Ings points out: "Penarth boasts some fine examples of Victorian and Edwardian architecture from the town's heyday in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when it was fondly referred to as 'the garden by the sea'."

Images of the town centre – 'Bank Corner' and 'Windsor Road Shops' – in the early part of the 20th century demonstrate Penarth's early grandeur.

One of the town's tragedies was the Esplanade Hotel (number 22 in this history tour) being destroyed by fire in 1976. In its pomp, it had a restaurant, a cafe and



ornamental gardens. It was a base for the Barbarians who used to play Penarth Rugby Club every Good Friday. These

In our busy lives we often fail to spot the architectural gems that surround us – and this volume puts that to

rights for Penarth. **Penarth History Tour** is published by Amberley Books, retails for £6.99, and should be available in local bookshops.

For more information, go to: www.amberley-books.com.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cowbridge Arts Group

THE March exhibition at the Old Hall Cowbridge is by the Vale Photographic Club, which meets on Fridays at Ystradowen village hall (see www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk).

The Old Hall is open weekdays (including evenings) and admission is free. To confirm opening times call 01446 773831.

South Wales Shadows Club

THE South Wales Shadows Club will meet on March 8 in the Conservative Club, Stanwell Road (02920 309979).

This is your chance to come and play – bring your guitar, (use our PA etc) or just listen. Licensed bar, all welcome from 8pm on.

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Lost

LOST CAT



Called Lola, black & white, short hair, no collar, fairly small and round, slight kink in the end of her tail. Missing since Friday 1st Jan. £100 reward offered for information leading to her recovery. She is microchipped. **07771 667536**
Lost between Eglwys Brewis & Llanmaes area.

Thank You

DOREEN AINSWORTH

would like to thank the kind people for their help after her fall outside Filco in Llantwit Major on Wednesday, 17th February.

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE £12 inc. VAT - box for 2 weeks. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to 'The Glamorgan GEM' at The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL, or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. Sorry no refunds are given.

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It's all square as St Athan FC return to action

AFTER an astounding 12 weeks of bad weather preventing any league action, the Vale of Glamorgan league returned but not quite with a bang with this game between St Athan FC and Barry Athletic.

Despite Courtney Goodwin firing St Athan into the lead, a penalty kick levelled the scores and that is how the game remained after a scrappy and untidy affair.

St Athan came into the game missing influential midfield duo Reece Lewis and Dean Cleave through injury and suspension. However, Jonathan Ashton made his Saints debut and Sean Wilkin made his return after a few months out.

Both sides had to shake off the ring rust with neither side fashioning an opening in the early exchanges. It was Barry Athletic who engineered the first chance, their striker shooting just wide from the left of the area.

Then came the breakthrough. As the Saints attacked down the left, the cross into the box was only half cleared as far as Goodwin, and his low rasping strike squirmed under the keeper to give St Athan the lead.

The lead didn't last long however, as their front man was adjudged to be fouled in the area and a disputable penalty awarded. Athletic duly dispatched the spot kick.

Tackles flew in as St Athan pushed on to retake the lead but no clear cut chances came their way as the first half came to a close.

The second period picked up where the first left off with neither side being able to string a few passes together. Somehow red cards weren't shown as the home team attempted to show their aggression in the tackle but Saints

were unfazed by the physicality.

James Austin then saw his free kick from the right tipped wide by the home keeper with fine diving save. Athletic started to see more of the ball and created the better chances with Paul Lucas making a couple of straight forward saves to deny the home forwards.

Saints hit back and an Austin corner flashed across the six yard box with Jordan Mortimore and Richie Humphreys both narrowly missing a connection.

The Athletic striker then saw his ambitious scissor kick comfortably held by Lucas; it would surely have been the winner.

Saints had a late penalty appeal turned down as Austin was brought down, the referee waving away the protests. The game ended in a whimper with both sides settling for a point in an overall uninspiring contest.

The point keeps St Athan top of the Premier Division by two points; however, Wenvoe do have a game in hand.

This week St Athan host Cowbridge Town in the ASRS Cup, weather permitting.

St Athan: Lucas, Cox, Lewis, Ashton, Garrison, Laing, Goodwin, Wilkin, Pugh, Austin, Mortimore. Substitute - Humphreys.

Meanwhile the second side unfortunately lost 6-2 away to an impressive Knap team, Josh Morgan and Josh Howells grabbing the goals for Saints, who play Knap again in the Dockers Cup quarter-final this week.

St Athan B: MacDonald, Young, Wolfe, Richards, Cleave, Williams, Stock, George, J.Howells, Morgan, C.Howells. Substitutes - Hughes, Garrison, Keen.

HD

Vale of Glamorgan League round-up

THE Vale of Glamorgan league was back in action after most teams hadn't played for nearly three months due to the bad weather.

Wenvoe Arms progressed to the semi-finals of the Barry Cup as they won 3-1 away to Cowbridge Town, a tricky tie considering Cowbridge are the only team to inflict defeat upon Wenvoe in the league this season. AFC Rhose eased into the semi-finals of the ASRS Cup with a 3-0 win over SP Construction.

Meanwhile in the Premier Division league leaders St Athan were held 1-1 by fifth place Barry Athletic. The point sees St Athan two points ahead of Wenvoe but the second place side have a game in hand.

Penarth Town shocked Dinas Powys Athletic 4-2 at Bryn a Don and Island Marine secured a massive three points in a 4-3 thriller against Masons Moving Group.

In the First Division five teams are well in the title hunt. Leaders Sully Sports dispatched bottom team BV 4-1 but Cogan Coronation notched their ninth win of the campaign with a 4-0 win

over FC Pumas to stay a point behind them.

Vale United hit six past AFC Rhose B making it eight games unbeaten after only winning one of their first three games this season.

United took full advantage to leapfrog their title rivals to third place, as Barry Belgrade drew 2-2 with Cadoxton Athletic and Cardiff Airport B lost away 2-1 to Tynenydd. Cadoxton Barry and Glenbrook played out a 3-3 draw to share the spoils.

Division Two leaders Barry Athletic B extended their lead at the top to seven points as they cruised past Barry Albion 4-0. Second

placed Dockers got a big win over fourth place Cadoxton Imps, Dockers hitting five to the Imps' one.

Knap kept in touch with the top two with an impressive 6-2 win over St Athan B; lastly, Island Marine B and Penarth Town B played out a 1-1 draw.

Finally, champions Cardiff Airport represented the Vale in the SWFA Intermediate Cup with fine quarter-final victory, 3-0, over AFC Rumney Juniors.

Airport will now play Hirwaun Sports in the semi-finals with Trebanog v Llangeinor the other tie.

HD

Penllyn Bridge Club results

THURSDAY, February 4 (20 pairs):

1st Joan Bird & Lyn Chamberlain 61.87%, 2nd Judith & Colin Nunn 58.08%, 3rd John Lord & Jo Iles 58.08%.

Thursday, February 11 (19 pairs): 1st Myrtle Hansard & Diana Lewis 65.91%, 2nd John Lord & Jo Iles 60%, 3rd Viv Roberts & Joyce Holloway 57.19%.

Thursday, February 18 (17 pairs): 1st Joyce Holloway & John Lord 60%, joint 2nd Allan Evans & Keith Price, Phil Edwards & Lou Edwards 58.21%.

Thursday, February 25 (19 pairs, Robert Brown competition): 1st Judith & Colin Nunn 62.5%, 2nd Norma Barber & Moyra Cuthill 59.94%, 3rd Helen & Mike Rutley 58.24%.

CN

Society thanks estate agents



The staff of Watts & Morgan are pictured with a copy of the book printed to celebrate 30 years of the Glamorgan Farmers Golf Society. The society is extremely grateful to Watts & Morgan for their sponsorship.

The Barry and District league tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1: Cadoxton Cons 6, West End 9; Liberals 7, Rhose Social 8; West End Runaways 7, Moors Boys 8.

League table: Wyndham Cons 128, West End 127, West End Runaways 123, Liberals 122, Rhose Social 116, Moors Boys 105, Cadoxton Cons 104.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1: King William XII 1.5, Slammers 5.5; Rugby Club 5, Rhose Social B 2; Cambrian Flyers 2; Rhose Social A 5; Rhose Social C 1; Allsorts 6; Liberals A 4; Liberals C 3; Barries Boys 7, Rhose Social 0.

League table: Sea View B 81, West End D 71, Rugby Club 70.5, King William XII 63, Barries Boys 60.5, Allsorts 57, Slammers 57, Rhose Social B 56, West End C 55, Liberals A 55, Rhose Social A 54.5, Rhose Social A 54.5, Rhose Social C 44, Cambrian Flyers 40.

SNOOKER DIVISION 1: Market Street C 3, Caddy Allstars 2; Harbour B 4, Wyndham Cons A 1; Rhose Social C 1, Savoy A 4; Sully Sports A 2, West End A 3; West End B 5; Wyndham Cons C 0; Liberators 1, Services Social B 4; Penarth Cons A 4, Market Street B 1; Market Street B 4, Wyndham Cons D 1.

League table: Liberators 59, Services Social B 57, Market Street B 56, Penarth Cons A 56, Savoy B 51, Wyndham Cons C 46, Cadoxton Cons A 40, West End A 40, Sully Sports A 36, West End B 31, Wyndham Cons D 28 (* = Points deducted).

All league & cup fixtures and results at www.barryleagues.co.uk and on Facebook - search for 'barry leagues'.

JW

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

LATEST results for February 8 are as follows:

First division: Baker's Dozen (K Jano, J Mullins 29) 282, SV Gals (C Provis, R Sewel 27) 254; Coppers (D Nesbitt, J Ward 33) 310, Special Angels (C Thomas, C Wills, J Jones, J Abram 30) 322; Space Finders (E Worthy 34) 337, Allsorts (H James 31) 282; Cigar Ladies (A McCarthy 31) 295, Bobby's Girls (G Toogood 30) 265; Castle Bandits (L Nash 28) 251, Colcot Ladies (H Edwards 29) 255; Family and Friends (R Cummings, J Kirkby 24) 232, Breakaways (L Burnett, C Parfitt 25) 231; Family Affair (L Brown, S Vincent 27) 254, Barry Stars (C Lambeth 30) 232.

Second division: Little Devils (S Evans 25) 249, Pila Palas (A Williams 32) 257; Castaways (K Billings, J Byrne 29) 283, Merry Makers (C Edwards, K Lewis 27) 283; Rhose Starlights (A White, E Davies 25) 242, Rhose Rovers (M Griffiths 26) 234; After Eight (P Mephum 33) 289, Witchill Widows (L Sullivan, L Spyro 27) 264; Clickies (E Walters 34) 296, Witchill Weebies (H Aspinall, N Harrihy 31) 287.

Third division: La Belles (J Williams 35) 332, Rugby Triers (E Nicholaou 34) 319; Westenders (R

Morgan 26) 205, Hill Billies (C Whyman 29) 242; Persuaders (K Kemp, F Organ 22) 189, SV Ladies (C Griffiths 24) 186; Fallen Angels (J Tudor, T Lawrence 27) 262, Etcetera (T Barton 26) 239; Friends and Neighbours (C White 28) 239, Airways Angels (J Nash, M Carpenter 26) 227; Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh, B Lang, E Bryan, A Forrest 21) 200, Twilights (C Thomas 23) 203.

Fourth division: Guardian Angels (S Aston, L Harris 24) 211, Off The Rails (L Stephenson 26) 209; Challengers (B Griffiths, J Jones, H Velda 30) 249, Uptown Girls (C Miller 33) 308; Witchill Wanderers (C Reynolds, S Reynolds 30) 265, Rebels (S Oram 30) 233; Odd Bods (V Jackson 28) 245, Liberals (S Perry, F Williams 26) 150; Nite Outers (L Newman 24) 203, Living On A Spare (S Farmer 23) 225.

Fourth division (February 1): Rebels (J Farr) 190, Challengers (J Jones 28) 246; Off The Rails (K Green 24) 224, Odd Bods (S Ali 26) 210; Liberals (K Stevens 20) 120, Aristocats (C Chatwell, J Weston 24) 231; Living On A Spare (S Townsend 30) 291, Hell Raisers (L Walters 30) 292.

Please note the secretary's meeting will be on March 7 at the Cadoxton Conservative Club.

Netballers shine!



CONGRATULATIONS to the Cowbridge Comprehensive School Year 8 netball team on their great success recently! They were winners of the Vale

Netball Tournament and winners of the first round of the Cardiff and Vale Netball Tournament!

A brilliant all-round team performance! Good luck to the girls in the county finals on Friday, March 11!

Cowbridge Cricket Club news update

COWBRIDGE Cricket Club have recently committed to a programme of replacing their two practice matting pitches at a cost in excess of £5,000.

Club chairman, Hugh Williams, told The GEM that the current matting pitches were now beyond repair which is hardly surprising as they were installed in 1991. The original matting pitches were supplied by Nottsports and that company has won the tender process to replace them.

The installation is scheduled to be well in advance of the season's start. Hugh added that all the funds used in this project have been raised by the club and represent the determination of the club's committee to provide a sporting environment of the highest quality.

The club are also committed to replace their equipment store during the spring and also, in conjunction with

the other sections of the Cowbridge Athletic Club, restore the Fred Dunn gates.

The shed predates the matting pitches and the Dunn gates were erected in the early 1960s - anyone who would like to help by making a donation to these latter projects are encouraged to contact Jeffrey Bird on 07976 793629 or via jrb@rsbird.com

On the playing side, the pre-season practice evenings for juniors are being very well attended.

JRB

Busy weekend for tennis club

THIS weekend saw a busy schedule of fixtures for Barry Community Tennis Club.

With the winter season rapidly drawing to a close, and lots of matches requiring rescheduling due to the awful weather we've had over the last few months, the adult mixed doubles team hosted Canton in glorious (but chilly) sunny conditions at Romilly Park, while the 16 and under team visited Penarth Lawn Tennis Club for a three-way fixture with both PLTC and Llantrisant Tennis Club.

The adults drew on matches but narrowly lost on points as their opponents won more total games played, while the 16 and under team beat PLTC and will conclude their fixture against Llantrisant this weekend, as the visitors lost a player due to time constraints.

Club development coach, Penny Mickelsen, commented: "As a brand new club, Barry CTC are happy just to be entering teams and completing fixtures, so any wins are

a bonus.

"Although the teams are inexperienced, it's great to see their improvement on court each time they play, and they all genuinely enjoy being on court."

Parent-captain of the 16 and under team, Kerrie O'Carroll, noted: "The smiles on the faces of the kids when they are playing are really lovely to see, and their confidence grows with every game."

Because they have to play doubles as well as singles, they are developing great communication skills and team work as well. It really is a great sport to be involved with."

The winter season concludes at the end of March, and with all of the fixtures that still require rescheduling after the recent wet weather, the teams are going to have a busy month ahead.

For more information about Barry Community Tennis Club, email info@barryctc.co.uk see www.facebook.com/BarryCommunityTennis or call Penny on 07816 311263.

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The JSTKD Martial Arts and Fitness team at the event.

Local Tae Kwon Do club competes in Caerleon

THE recent Welsh Closed Tae Kwon Do Tournament was another successful outing for the team at JSTKD Martial Arts and Fitness.

Held at the University of Wales Caerleon Campus, the competition saw teams taking part from throughout south Wales, as well as guest clubs from further afield.

JSTKD welcomed several first timers in both the girls and boys divisions with the full team comprising: Lynne Doel, Rhys Doel, Menna Birmingham, Chris Edwards, Josh Edwards, Sean Edwards, Jake Hayvice, Zak Hayvice, Alan Li, Emily Doogue, Jessica Doogue, Niamh Padmore, Alesha Roberts, Fraser McKenna, Zak Bowman, Saul Bowman, Alex Munn, Finlay Valvo, Adrian Brolog, Wilf Dunlinson, Rhys Bryn, Dylan Howe and Viv Wilfred.

Keen competition at the Barrivale Bridge Club



Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews.



Peter Millar and Jane Brook.

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club for February 23 are as follows:

First, Mark Roderick and Mick Green, 74.76 per cent; equal second, Mike Close and Peter Millar, 57.14 per cent; equal second, Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews, 57.14 per cent.

Mark Roderick and Mick Green also won on handicap.

The winners of the 'Mixed Pairs' competition were Jane Brook and Peter Millar with Lyn Matthews and Alan Jones the winners on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Chris Edwards proved to be as reliable and versatile as usual by demonstrating accuracy to take silver in the mens red belt patterns, followed by a display of sound technique to clinch the bronze in the mens red belt sparring. Son Josh Edwards matched his dad by stepping up to the challenge in style and coming away with the bronze in the boys black belt lightweight sparring.

Meanwhile, in the boys yellow belt peewee division, Alex Munn powered his way to a well-deserved gold. Flying the flag for the green belt boys, Jacob Thomas took bronze in the tag team event.

Special mention has to go to Alan Li, who found himself taking part in the mens black belt sparring events as there was no cadet (older boys) division. He fought hard in the individual sparring, although not quite making the medals, but was determined not to leave empty handed as he stormed into the tag team sparring. Despite suffering a heavy blow and having to deal with blood streaming down his face, he came away clutching a hard-won silver.

However, the ladies and girls turned in equally notable performances in their respective divisions. An outstanding effort in her first ever competition, saw Alesha Roberts reach the final of the girls lightweight yellow belt sparring, all the more creditable as this was a large group. Alesha showed great ability against her opponent, but after a questionable decision, had to be content with the silver.

Emily Doogue remained steadfast in the girls lightweight red belt sparring, which paid dividends as she came away with the bronze. For the ladies, Lynne Doel's experience shone through as she claimed a strategic victory to take the gold in the ladies middleweight red belt sparring event, while Viv Wilfred managed to keep the winning streak going by securing a bronze in both the ladies green belt patterns and ladies lightweight green belt sparring.

Head instructor, Joseph Schembri, said: "Congratulations are deserved by all our team members, many of whom fought well to battle through several rounds, although ultimately missing out on the medals. Rhys Doel and Menna Birmingham also deserve a mention as they were just edged into fourth place in the junior synchronised patterns event. This was the first time that Rhys and Menna had performed their complex routine together, indicating great results in the future for this promising partnership."

Visit www.jstkdk.co.uk for full details of classes for all levels from ages three years up to adults.

Take a first step on coaching ladder

THE Vale Councilled Barry Communities First programme, is running a free sports leaders course in partnership with Vale Sports and Play Development, for people who would like to gain a step on the ladder to a career in sports or coaching.

The one-day accredited course will be on Wednesday, March 9, from 9.30am-3.30pm, at Holm View Leisure Centre, Skomer Road. Attendees will learn

about basic sports practices, how to become a coach and develop links with local community sports clubs.

Completing the course will lead to a Level 1 award in sports leadership. Priority for course places will be given to residents living in a Barry Communities First area, which includes parts of Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleand, Court and Gibbonsdown. To be eligible, attendees must be 16 or over.

For more information, or to book a place, contact Peter Bowles on 01446 709432 or visit www.BarryCommunitiesFirst.org.

Llangan Primary School are table tennis champs!



LLANGAN Primary School table tennis Academy, which has been running at the school for several years, produced an astonishing performance at the Welsh National Primary School Championships held at the National Sports Centre of Wales, Cardiff on February 24, a spokeswoman reports.

Thirty six teams fought hard all day with the Llangan A team of Evan O'Connor and Elliot Jones coming up trumps to pip previous champions Cwmlai from the Rhondda for the national title.

The strength of table tennis at the school runs deep. The B team of Harry Jones and Oscar Marriot took third place, with three other teams from Llangan finishing in the top 12.

Llangan has developed a top-class reputation as a breeding ground for talent. They currently have four players in the south Wales regional squad and have had several children go on to represent Wales at national level, including current number one Evan O'Connor.



Evans has now been selected to play for Wales once more at the British Primary Schools Championship, due to take place in Guernsey at Easter.

Llangan table tennis would not be the force it has become without the skill and dedication of the coaches Phil Avery and Regina Grech. All of the Llangan players would like to thank them for their ongoing support and guidance.

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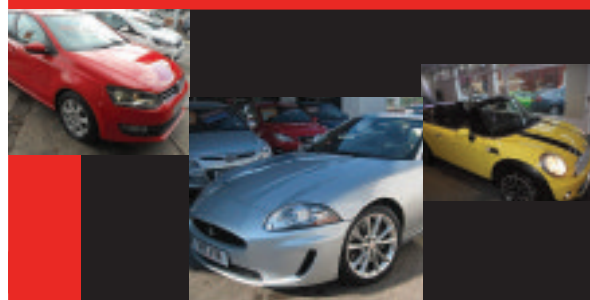
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Under-7s travel to Richmond

COWBRIDGE under-7s' rugby team travelled to Richmond in London last weekend for a weekend full of rugby.

They were invited to play at the London Welsh St David's Day Festival playing against teams from Ealing, Bank of England, London Welsh and Chiswick.

Cowbridge players were also invited to the London Welsh rugby club house on Saturday evening to watch the England v Ireland match where the atmosphere was incredible.

Kick off for the festival commenced for the young players at 9.30am on Sunday morning. The Cowbridge under-7 players scored numerous tries and displayed some great tag-rugby skills.

It was a great experience for all the players and a memorable weekend full of rugby and left them with many tales to tell.

Thank you to all at the London Welsh rugby club for a highly organized and welcoming festival.

Ian Weighall, Cowbridge under-7s coach, said: "It was a wonderful opportunity for the youngsters to showcase the skills they've been working so hard on in training."

CTF



Scorpions are shocked in Cup

SOUTH Wales Scorpions were one of many clubs who lost to lower division sides in the third round of the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup on Saturday.

In a day full of shocks where the home team won on each occasion, Kells from Cumbria beat Hemel Stags 12-6, Pilkington Recs from Cheshire beat London Skolars 13-0, Siddal from Yorkshire hammered Newcastle Thunder 30-4 and the Scorpions went down 37-20 to Featherstone Lions in Yorkshire.

History was also in favour of the home sides. The ties took place 107 years to the day since the Challenge Cup's officially recognised first shock result when the professionals from Ebbw Vale travelled to face amateurs Beverley, from Hull, another of league's traditional areas, and were beaten.

The Scorpions will now be able to concentrate on the league, which starts on Sunday, March 6 when

Keighley Cougars are visitors again to Virginia Park (kick-off 3pm). Keighley lost in their last game at Virginia Park and the Scorpions will hope history is on their side on this

occasion. Featherstone were deserved winners against the Scorpions. They missed an early penalty but took advantage of their next opportunity three minutes later when, following a penalty, John Hardcastle wrestled his way over for a well-taken try which Jackson converted.

Keiran Redfearn scored their second from another penalty, this time unconverted making it 10-0.

Scorpions' Chris Davies was sinbinned and Lions took advantage when Rhys Dyas scored in the corner and Jackson converted.

Scorpions looked to fight back and got near to the line after a penalty but pressure forced a drop ball. They also forced a goal-line drop-out keeping up the pressure on their hosts.

It eventually counted. A trademark Dai Evans try in the corner gave them hope but Paul Emanuel missed the kick leaving them still two tries short.

However, the hosts went in 22-4 to the good after Joe Fox scored and Jackson converted on 33 minutes.

But Fox wasn't on the field for much longer as he was sinbinned in a strange incident after he reacted

to a high tackle, but Lions were given the penalty which Jackson kicked wide.

Lions started the second half well. After Scorpions did well to keep out an attack, Dyas intercepted well to score an unconverted try.

Scorpions fought back. Chris Vitalini waltzed through a gap in the Lions defence and Emanueli goalied, before a brilliant try from Evans, catching the ball in mid-air and twisting round the defence to score. 26-14 on 52 minutes and the Welsh were back in it.

But Lions sealed things 10 minutes later after the Scorpions conceded two penalties and Dyas went over in the corner for an unconverted try.

Lions' Dean Gamble added another which Jackson improved but there was still time for a Scorpions consolation after Rhys Davies picked up a loose ball to score with Emanueli kicking the extras.

Gamble had the final say, kicking a short range drop-goal with just a handful of minutes remaining.

IG

Cowbridge RFC exit Bowl in unlucky circumstances

AT the third time of asking Cowbridge finally travelled to Burry Port for the fourth round of the SWALEC Bowl competition.

Hopes were high as the bus left Cowbridge at 11am for the long journey west. Coach Leigh Davies had arranged for the team to warm up at the indoor training facilities at Parc y Scarlets.

The boys had a good session for 40 minutes followed by several supporters who showed they've still got it (whatever that is). Many

thanks to the Scarlets for their kind hospitality.

After a short journey the boys arrived at Burry Port's Memorial Ground raring to go on a chilly but dry afternoon.

Despite the home team starting strongly, Cowbridge were first on the scoreboard with a well-taken penalty by full back Ben Wright after just four minutes.

Ten minutes in, Cowbridge scored a spectacular try. They had already threatened with good runs by

Ashford Thomas, Joe Davies and Rhys Allin and all three were involved in the try.

A fine pass from centre Thomas released Wright and with excellent support from Davies, Allin took the final pass and sprinted over. Wright added the extras.

Burry Port responded with a penalty but with good lineout ball from Alex Lewis, Lewys Hopkins and Kieren David, Cowbridge were unlucky not to score just before half-time with good work again from Davies, Allin and Will Williams.

The half-time score was Burry Port 3, Cowbridge 10.

Cowbridge continued to attack at the start of the second half and

following a good run by wing Duncan Evans, Wright was almost over but stopped illegally by Burry Port and he calmly slotted over the penalty.

Despite further opportunities for Cowbridge, Burry Port were becoming increasingly dominant in the scrum and with Cowbridge down to 14 men for 10 minutes they drove over for a try after 25 minutes.

Cowbridge again threatened the home line only to be brought back by the referee.

Then, with minutes to go, Burry Port kicked to touch from a penalty and drove over from the lineout. The conversion was missed with the score 13-13 at the final whistle.

As Cowbridge prepared for extra time, the referee informed the sides that Burry Port were through to the next round on try count - two to one.

So, great disappointment for Cowbridge after a great run in the Bowl with some fine victories - the boys gave their all.

Now it's time to concentrate on the league - and there's quite a backlog of games. This Saturday we are at home to Penygraig (please, weather, be kind to us).

We then travel to Canton on Friday, March 18 (kick off 7pm), the day before the Italy game, and then it's away to Llandrindod Wells on March 26.

RV/RK

PAUL'S BACK ON WINNING TRAIL

PAUL Moloney, stable jockey to Llancafnan's Evan Williams, who has been sidelined through injury the last three months or so, is back on the winning trail.

Moloney, riding for Williams, landed the Racing UK Day Pass Just To Handicap Hurdle at Exeter last Friday on six-year-old On The Road, a 5-1 shot, which came home six lengths ahead of Distant Sound trained by Chepstow's Grace Harris.

Earlier in the day, Phil Dando, who also trains in the Vale, saw his Sahara Haze, a 100-1 chance, finish third under Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft in the opening Mares' Novice Hurdle.

MORE PRIZE MONEY FOR CHEPSTOW

Good news for trainers in the Vale such as Evan Williams, Tim Vaughan and John Flint is that Chepstow Racecourse and Arena Racing Company (ARC) are pleased to announce that there will be significant increases in prize money across ARC racecourses and Chepstow will be offering uplifts across

its jump programme.

The newly created two-day Totepool Chepstow October Jumps Festival will be worth £300,000, an increase of £50,000 across the weekend.

Feedback from trainers after the inaugural running of the fixture in 2015 was positive.

Jonjo O'Neill said: "I was particularly impressed with Chepstow's two-day October fixture this year and hope that will be the future."

At that time of the year, trainers will have horses coming to the end of their summer campaign and others starting off for the winter. Fixtures take place on March 12, 24, 28; April 9, 22, 29; May 10, 21; June 10, 20, 28; July 8, 14, 22, 31.

GLAMORGAN HUNT POINT-TO-POINT
The Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases will be held at Ystradowen on March 26.

BRIAN LEE

Cowbridge darts league round-up

ON Tuesday February 23, eight teams assembled for an evening of league darts.

The Edmondes B strengthened their lead at the top of the table by beating the Six Bells 7-2.

At the Edmondes Arms it was not a good night for the home teams, with the Highwayman Inn beating the Edmondes A and the Farmers B (H&H) beating the Edmondes C, both by the score 5-4; while at the Farmers Arms, Llanharry defeated the Farmers Arms by the same 5-4 score. The Old Post Ladies did not have a game.

The current league standings are:

Edmondes B (79 points), Llanharry (67), Highwayman Inn (66), Edmondes A (61), Six Bells Inn and Farmers Arms (58), Edmondes C (51), Farmers B (H&H) (45) and Old Post Ladies (19).

Next Tuesday, March 8, the first rounds of the men's doubles will be played. The host pubs on this occasion are the Highwayman Inn and the Six Bells Inn.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

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SIX NATIONS RUGBY

French win keeps Wales' championship hopes alive



Defensive bottlenecks and drab displays pose the question... **CAN RUGBY BREAK FREE AND TAKE A JOURNEY INTO SPACE?**



Skipper Sam Warburton on the charge epitomises the team's success in close quarters combat, but Wales know that going into an arm wrestle with powerful England at Twickenham next week may not be enough.

BEFORE the clash with Les Bleus at Cardiff's Principality Stadium on Friday evening, Wales' head coach Warren Gatland observed: "The reason there's not much (French) flair any more is not because they haven't got the players, it's that teams are defensively so organised. There's just no space on the field. Teams are being shut down... That's what has happened to the game."

There is a nutshell, is both the problem and the challenge that has bedevilled this year's lack-lustre Six Nations – with only two more rounds to go for teams to find a solution to the current impasse.

Gatland's frank assessment goes to the heart of concerns by rugby union purists who regret that in a professional, win-at-all-costs age, it has become less an expression of individual and collective skills than 80 minutes of grim attrition, in which 'physicality' is prized above flair – and any notion of spectator enjoyment is purely incidental.

Nowadays, aggressive-defence is king, with a language of its own: Accepted buzz words are 'big hits', 'collision dominance' and 'clearing-out' (more often a euphemism for 'taking out' – ie blatantly tackling an opponent without the ball, contrary to the basic laws of the game though no longer recognised as such!)

Ironically, Gatland's comments could just as easily be applied to Wales itself – for the national team's successful revival after nearly two decades in the doldrums, since the tough Kiwi took over in 2008, has been founded on resolute, full-blooded defence – masterminded by his equally blunt-speaking ex rugby league comrade-in-arms, Shaun Edwards.

In this respect, the adoption of what many see as essentially a rugby league-type template, has served Wales well – at least in the northern hemisphere – honing onetime international whipping boys feared by no-one, into a superbly-fit, formidable defensive force, capable of holding their own in any physical head-to-head, and well able to "shut teams

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

down" – as was shown again in the 19-10 win over France.

The problem, though, is that all too often this has proved to be not quite enough, with equally-committed defences cancelling each other out and, in the case of Wales, highlighting serious shortcomings in that other vital part of the rugby equation – skilful attacking play.

In fairness, the Welsh camp do appear to be seeking a way out of the defensive stranglehold that is choking the running game, with Gatland hinting before Friday's match at a more expansive approach: "With the roof closed we want to go out and play some rugby, and I think that France will want to do the same thing, too, so hopefully it will be a great spectacle", he said.

This hope was dealt an immediate blow when the stadium's retractable roof refused to retract, leaving it open to the night sky – but at least the chilly air seemed to spur his notoriously slow-starting team, with Wales immediately taking the initiative and putting the Gallic visitors under early pressure.

The usually immaculate Dan Biggar for once failed to land the resultant penalty from 22 metres, but made amends with a second attempt after France too had failed to go-ahead when Wales were penalised.

Minutes later, Biggar made it 6-0 with another penalty, which sparked a period of intense French pressure that won a penalty, to make the score 6-3 – but then a dour, error-filled first half was suddenly lit up with a scorching break half the length of the field by impressive scrum half Gareth Davies, that took him clean through the defence, and almost to the try line.

With five team mates lined up outside him, he unaccountably choose to kick ahead rather than simply offload, and what could have been hailed as the try of the championship

sadly, fizzled away to nothing.

This, and sustained Welsh pressure that sadly saw more chances lost, and crucial points going begging under the shadow of the French posts, summed up a frustrating first half that did little to excite the 74,160 spectators huddled in the stadium on a cold February night in Cardiff.

They could only hope for better fare to cheer after the changeover and, indeed, the Welsh team did come out with renewed vigour, reaping dividends at both the set-piece and breakdown, where skipper Sam Warburton revelled in being restored to his favoured open side role.

It saw Biggar step up once more to perform his now familiar place-kick ritual and pop over a third penalty to make the score 9-3.

Three minutes later, the margin widened to a commanding 16-3 lead in almost comical fashion when George North, now happily returning to form, broke through. In his over-eagerness to get his name on the score sheet, he failed to connect with a wild hack at the ball, which then bounced back to him off a defender, and he simply had to dive over for a touchdown near the posts, which Biggar nonchalantly converted.

To the French team's credit, they were immediately galvanised into action as they saw any slim chance of a Grand Slam gradually slipping away, and the heroic Wales defence was severely tested under an increasingly desperate onslaught – defending scrum after scrum yards from their line, which saw them bend but not break.

Then it was all hands to the pump, as wave after wave of blue shirts pummelled the Welsh line, which still refused to yield, until Biggar broke the siege with a long clearance to touch, before eventually adding a fourth penalty to take the game almost out of French reach at 19-3.

The latter, though, were not finished yet, and launched a final frenzied assault to claim a consolation converted try, and make the final score-line 19-10.

The referee's whistle came as a relief to the Welsh camp, who will take what North admitted was "an ugly win", but know they will have to up their game substantially at Twickenham next week, if they are to derail new coach Eddie Jones' England side, now confidently sniffing a Grand Slam after defeating the injury-hit Irish on Saturday by an almost identical margin – 21-10.

Already some pundits are smacking their lips in anticipation of "a brutal collision" between the two – none of which quietsens wider concerns over the generally low standard of rugby displayed so far in this Six Nations campaign.

Without underplaying the importance of rugged defence in the modern game, it does beg the question – has the pendulum swung too far at the expense of refined attacking skills, resulting in drab displays and a paucity of tries, that have almost become the norm, at least in the northern hemisphere?

What can be done to solve a major contributory factor – the inevitable tight congestion caused by ever-encroaching defensive formations that now stifle open play?

One suggestion is to widen the pitch, but that could prove to be impractical on cost grounds alone. Another might be to dispense with the use of 'fresh legs' on the replacements bench and revert to the old system whereby substitutes are used only when a player is injured on the field.

An even more drastic solution (dare I suggest it?) might be to take a leaf out of rugby league's handbook and cut teams from 15 to 13, to free up space and encourage the running game – and tries – which, lest we forget, is what rugby union is supposed to be about!

One thing is for sure, it is an issue that needs to be addressed, if only for the sake of rugby's (paying) fans who have had to endure increasingly drab fare of late.

It would be interesting to hear GEM readers' thoughts and suggestions on this.



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